Daily Report

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Communique on Bloc City Secretaries' Meeting

AU161750 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 14 Dec 87 p 2

[Text] PAP—On 12-13 December 1987, a meeting of first secretaries of party committees from Berlin, Budapest, Moscow, Prague, Sofia, and Warsaw was held in Warsaw.

It was attended by: Guenter Schabowski, SED Politburo member, Central Committee secretary, and first secretary of the SED District Committee in Berlin; Ferenc Havasi, MSZMP Politburo member and first secretary of the Budapest MSZMP Committee; Lev Zaikov, CPSU Politburo member, Central Committee secretary, and first secretary of the Moscow Oblast Party Committee; Antonin Kapek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and first secretary of the Prague CPCZ Committee; Ivan Panev, BCP Central Committee secretary and first secretary of the Sofia City BCP Committee, and Janusz Kubasiewicz, PZPR Politburo candidate member, and first secretary of the Warsaw Voivodship PZPR Committee.

On 12 December, Army General Wojciech Jaruzelski, PZPR Central Committee first secretary, received the first secretaries of party committees of fraternal capital cities and the ambassadors of these states. During the course of the discussion, he stressed that the increase in cooperation between the capitals of socialist states affirms through practice the principles of socialist internationalism and serves the interests of our parties and peoples well.

During the course of the meeting, the party committee first secretaries conducted an exchange of information on the work of capital city party organizations in implementing the resolutions adopted at party congresses. They also discussed current tasks for accelerating the development of the capitals and the institution of changes in their sociopolitical life. Experience in strengthening the leading role of the party and improving methods of party work was also exchanged. Those attending the meeting also examined forms of party work that increase the involvement of party members in activities for the effective implementation of party resolutions and making party organizational and ideological work more efficient.

Those taking part in the meeting unanimously affirmed their resolve to continue and enhance comprehensive cooperation between party organizations of fraternal capitals and to expand direct ties of friendship between work forces and the inhabitants of capitals, and they stressed that the efforts of our parties and states to ensure lasting peace on earth are creating the necessary conditions for the attainment of such a goal.

The first secretaries of capital city party organizations received with great satisfaction the news of the signing by Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan of the treaty on the elimination of medium- and short-range missiles. This historic document is evidence of the new political thinking that exists on both sides. It was stressed that it is a manifestation of resolve and political wisdom, a readiness to continue constructive dialogue for the sake of peace. The CPSU general secretary's appraisal of the support provided by Warsaw Pact member states and their productive contribution to ensuring the success of the peace policy being pursued by the socialist states had elicited a broad response in fraternal countries. Clear evidence of this support was the socialist states' involvement in celebrations to marking the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution—a political event of world-wide significance. M.S. Gorbachev's meeting with the leaders of the Warsaw Pact member states was an expression of openness and respect for allied states.

Examining and making use of the experiences of fraternal states assumes special significance during this new stage of developing socialism, joint far-reaching searches, and political and economic changes. In view of this, it was deemed appropriate and essential to further develop various forms of cooperation between the capital cities' enterprises and work forces, union, youth, and other social organizations, and cultural and scientific centers. There was business-like discussion of ways of giving concrete form to mutually advantageous cooperation in accelerating the socioeconomic development of capital city regions on the basis of new progressive forms of administration and management, and the implementation of agreements between enterprises and scientific institutions on the basis of the common program for the scientific and technical development of CEMA member states.

Great interest was displayed in reports on new, effective ways—developed by individual party organizations and proven in practice—of educating young people and of conducting propaganda and explanatory work among working people and city inhabitants. "Capital City Days" were appraised positively; they are effective in bringing people closer together and popularizing the economic, scientific, and cultural achievements of the socialists states.

The meeting of first secretaries of party committees in Berlin, Budapest, Moscow, Prague, Sofia, and Warsaw had a business-like and open character and reflected the concern that exists about finding more effective solutions to the pressing occupational and everyday problems experienced by inhabitants of these capitals, and ways of increasing the level of party organization activity in surmounting negative phenomena that delay development. It was stressed

that a high level of activity on the part of party committees and trade union, youth and other organizations is needed in this area.

Those taking part in the meeting agreed unanimously that meetings of this kind are very useful to exchange experiences and motivate party organizations to solve significant problems concerning the social and economic development of fraternal capital cities.

It was agreed that similar meetings for the first secretaries of capital city party organizations will be organized, and it was deemed useful to organize annual meetings for the secretaries of capital city committees of fraternal parties in the socialist states to discuss concrete issues.

The meeting was attended by the ambassadors of the socialist states accredited in Poland.

Briefs

Prague-Sofia Agreement

Antonin Kapek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and leading secretary of the Prague CPCZ City Committee, arrived in the capital of the Polish People's Republic on Friday [11 December] to attend a meeting of the first secretaries of the party committees of Berlin, Budapest, Moscow, Prague, Sofia, and Warsaw. The same day A. Kapek and Ivan Panev, first secretary of the Sofia BCP City Committee, signed an agreement on cooperation between the two city party committees for the years 1988-90. [Text] *[Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 12 Dec 87 p 7 AU]*

Balkan Ecological Conference Opens

AU161935 Sofia BTA in English
1818 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Text] Sofia, December 16 (BTA)—Government experts from Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, Romania and Yugoslavia are taking part in a meeting on Balkan ecology which started here today. The meeting comes in response to Mr Todor Zhivkov's idea of ecological protection for the Balkan Peninsula.

In the course of two days, they will brief each other on the ecological situation and on the environment conservation programs in their respective countries, and they will exchange views and suggestions on cooperation in these fields.

The experts attending the meeting heard a greetings address read on behalf of Mr Georgi Atanasov, chairman of the Council of Ministers.

Recalling the importance of the initiative for Balkan ecological protection, launched by Mr Todor Zhivkov more than a year ago, and the wide-ranging response it received from the public, from the political circles and the intellectual community in the Balkan countries, Mr Atanasov writes in his address further on:

"We are aware that the practical realization of the idea of Balkan ecological protection requires sustained efforts and the patient provision of the necessary prerequisites, all the more so that it is a matter of coordinated action by sovereign states of different sociopolitical systems, holding different views on important questions of present-day international life. We are convinced, however, that provided there is good will and a realistic approach based on modern political thinking, common ground can be reached in working out the most suitable formula which would enable us to unite our efforts. The assertive spirit of Helsinki in the Balkans gives us reason for optimism," the greetings address says.

Mr Georgi Atanasov expresses the conviction that the signing of the Soviet-American treaty eliminating two classes of nuclear weapons will give a forceful impetus to the desire to build confidence and cooperation between the peoples and the states and to the search of solutions to the global problems of our time.

The experts began a constructive and candid discussion of their countries' ecological problems, of the programs they carry out for environmental protection and for the rational utilization of natural resources, one of the foremost priorities today.

Voicing concern over the negative impact of industrialization, urbanization and agricultural intensification on the state of the air, soil and waters, the participants in the meeting stressed the need for coordinated nature conservation efforts.

They share the conviction that ways for cooperation should be sought in solving ecological problems in the spirit of understanding and good-neighborliness.

Trade Exchange Protocol Signed With PRC

AU151624 Sofia BTA in English
1555 GMT 15 Dec 87

["Bulgaria-China: Business Ties"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, December 15 (BTA)—In 1988, Bulgaria and China will increase their countertrade by 10 per cent over this year, according to the protocol on trade and payments signed here today.

Bulgaria will export to China various types of bottling lines, freight trucks, I.C.E. trucks, ships, computer equipment etc.

China's export list to Bulgaria includes chemicals, pharmaceutical substances, non-ferrous metals, industrial feedstock, etc.

The protocol was signed by Mr Marin Marinov, deputy minister of trade of Bulgaria, and by Mr Wang Pinqing, deputy minister of economic relations and foreign trade. Meeting the press, they assessed in positive terms bilateral trade and economic contacts. They said that they had also considered the opportunities for the establishment of joint ventures and for joint industrial production.

For three years now, an enterprise assembling Bulgarian I.C.E. trucks has been successfully operating near Beijing.

DPRK Deputy Premier Visits, Holds Talks

Received by Zhivkov

AU151430 Sofia BTA in English
1335 GMT 15 Dec 87

[Text] Sofia, December 15 (BTA)—Today Mr Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of the CC of the BCP and president of the State Council, received Ms Kim Pok-sin, alternate member of the Politburo of the CC of the Workers Party of Korea, vice premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and co-chairman of the Intergovernmental Bulgaro-Korean Consultative Commission on Economic and Techno-Scientific Cooperation.

The guest conveyed greetings and best wishes to the Bulgarian party leader and head of state from Mr Kim Il-song, secretary general of the CC of the Workers Party of Korea and president of the DPRK. For his part, Mr Todor Zhivkov asked Ms Kim Pok-sin to convey best wishes for success of the DPRK and for a peaceful reunification of the country.

The meeting, held in a warm friendly atmosphere, was attended by Mr Georgi Yordanov, the Bulgarian co-chairman of the Intergovernmental Commission, alternate member of the Politburo of the CC of the BCP, and minister of science, culture and education.

Signs Trade Exchange Protocol

AU152028 Sofia BTA in English
2001 GMT 15 Dec 87

["Promotion of Economic Contacts With DPRK"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, December 15 (BTA)—The joint production of I.C.E. trucks and machine tools will be further promoted as a promising form of cooperation between Bulgaria and the DPRK. Bulgaria renders technical assistance to the DPRK in the construction of whole projects for the production of electronics, powder metallurgy articles, sulphuric acid etc. The protocol signed here today on the 17th session of the Intergovernmental Bulgaro-Korean Consultative Commission on Economic and Techno-Scientific Matters envisages wider cooperation in the production of non-ferrous metals in the DPRK and in geological prospecting, as well as in the construction of plant producing electrical engineering goods.

The protocol was signed by the co-chairmen of the commission Mr Georgi Yordanov, minister of culture, science and education, and Ms Kim Pok-sin, vice premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Zambia's Kaunda Receives Stanishev, Delegation

AU170814 Sofia BTA in English
2027 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Text] Lusaka, December 16 (BTA)—Today Dr Kenneth David Kaunda, chairman of the United National Independence Party (UNIP) and president of Zambia, received a delegation of the CC of the BCP led by Mr Dimitur Stanishev, secretary of the CC of the BCP, who are visiting that country at the invitation of the CC of UNIP. At the talk, held in a cordial atmosphere, Dr Kenneth Kaunda commended highly the promotion of relations between the two parties and countries and stressed Zambia's preparedness to work for their further expansion.

The sides discussed some topical international problems and stressed the importance of the progressive forces' unity of action in the struggle for strengthening peace and for seeking ways to settle politically the problems in the south of Africa.

The Bulgarian officials reiterated the solidarity of the BCP and of the Bulgarian people with the African peoples' struggle against apartheid, for a peaceful and independent development of the countries on the continent.

The BCP CC delegation conferred with a delegation of the CC of UNIP and signed with them a plan for interparty cooperation in the 1988-89 period.

Dyulgerov Addresses National Assembly Session

AU151746 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian
11 Dec 87 p 2

[Report on speech delivered by Petur Dyulgerov, candidate member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Bulgarian Trade Unions Central Council, at the closing meeting of the Seventh Session of the Ninth National Assembly on 10 December]

[Text] National Assembly Deputy Petur Dyulgerov was the first to take the floor in the debate on the 1988 draft budget and plan. He spoke on behalf of the BCP parliamentarian group and stated the following: As a matter of fact, the draft plan contains numerous new factors and its merits lie precisely in this. On the other hand, there will be difficulties in implementing these assets. This is because the essence of the plan not only lies in its rates of development, in its proportions, indexes, and calculations, but in its role as an instrument of change—from the self-managing communities to the national administration organs.

The basic and most important link in this chain is represented by the labor collective of the enterprise and the population of the municipality. In this respect the new approaches and the tasks involved in the plan should become a method of work and a behavior pattern for the people. The factors invested in the plan, both from the point of view of the basic premises, as well as of the indexes, will be most efficiently implemented on this ground.

The guarantee that the state plan will be implemented depends on whether the state plan becomes the plan of the labor collectives. This is an old statement, but it now has totally different substance and meaning. The indexes and the criteria of the plan, without being specifically addressed and laid down as instructions, must nevertheless be integrated in the independently compiled plans of the economic organizations, with the active participation of the workers and specialists. This must strongly and concretely reflect the principle of self-management the meaning of which is to involve people in production development and to increase production effectiveness through the people's interests.

It is obvious that, as soon as the Law on the Uniform State Plan has been adopted by the National Assembly, all enterprises and collectives should get involved in the work.

Todorov Closes Session

AU151724 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian
11 Dec 87 p 2

[Report on closing speech delivered by Stanko Todorov, Politburo member of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the National Assembly, at the Seventh Session of the Ninth National Assembly on 10 December 1987]

[Text] In his closing speech Stanko Todorov, chairman of the National Assembly pointed out as follows:

The municipalities and the self-managing communities of the population are laid down at the basis of Bulgarian state life. Guided by the new concepts adopted by the BCP at its July plenum, we discontinued by law the mandate of the former okrug, municipal, and rayon people's councils and townships. In order to create new situations the people must elect new government organs and transform them into self-managing organs. In accordance with the policy of democratization of society, we introduced essential basic amendments to the Election Law. Legal opportunities were created to nominate and register an unlimited number of candidates for national councilors and mayors in one election district. The labor collectives will be entitled to propose candidates for people's councilors and mayors. In order to facilitate this, we reduced the number of voters entitled to propose candidates for councilors and mayors. The competitive principle will make it possible to elect the worthiest people in the self-management organs—people, who have earned the respect and confidence of the population. I would like to stress that in connection with the proposed amendments to the Election Law we took into consideration certain expedient proposals submitted by citizens in discussing the draft law.

Following detailed debates in parliament and in the permanent commissions, within the government organs and and self-managing economic organizations, we adopted the Law on the Uniform Socioeconomic Plan for the Country's Development and the 1988 Budget Law. Positive rates of growth are envisaged: The national income, social labor productivity, capital investments, and the people's incomes, as well as consumer services will increase. The new edition of the Code on Economic Activity improves the mechanism of incentives. Prerequisites are created for expansion of social energies in society and implemention of the strategy of the qualitatively new growth.

We are expected, with great efforts and a sense of responsibility, to transform the plan indexes into real values, and this will permit us to advance. Let us invest our will and energy in this great initiative, as the people's representatives.

The present session did not discuss issues pertaining to the international situation and to the foreign policy of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, but these subjects are constantly present in our thoughts and decisions. We are following the visit of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev to the United States with tremendous interest. The INF Treaty he signed with U.S. President Ronald Reagan is a prelude to the solution of mankind's most crucial problem—nuclear disarmament. This means paving the way for the next great step—the 50 percent reduction of strategic, offensive arms.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria welcomes the agreement that was reached in Washington, because it is in accordance with the Bulgarian people's aspirations, with the goals of our peace-loving foreign policy.

In approximately 20 days we will end another year, full of deeds and hopes. The world in which we live is changing and we, Bulgarians, are changing as well. We will confidently proceed along our path illuminated by the 13th BCP Congress and the BCP Central Committee July Plenum. May our achievements become more numerous and substantial, may the Bulgarian people's life become more prosperous in 1988!

Law on 1988 Uniform State Plan Outlined

AU151629 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian
11 Dec 87 pp 1, 3

["Law on the Uniform State Plan for the Scientific-Technical and Socioeconomic Development of the People's Republic of Bulgaria for 1988"]

[Text] Article 1. (1) In accordance with the Law on the Uniform State Plan for the Scientific-Technical and Socioeconomic Development of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. During the Ninth 5-Year Plan, the requirements for deep restructuring of society and for qualitatively new growth in the economy, and the proposals of the National Assembly commissions. On the basis of the results achieved in 1986 and 1987, the National Assembly adopts the following basic rates and proportions for the country's development in 1988:

1. The following increases are to take place as compared with 1987:

a) Produced national income, by 6.1 percent;

b) Social labor productivity, by 6.6 percent, which is to provide the entire additional growth of the national income; and

c) Industrial goods output, by approximately 5.0 percent, while the production of the following branches is to rise at higher rates than the mean level: electronics; investment machine building; transportation, agricultural, construction equipment; the biotechnical and chemical industry; and metallurgy and mineral raw materials;

d) Agricultural production, by at least 5.5 percent, paving the way for a speedy transition to the new superintensive model for developing agriculture and raising it to a qualitatively new level; and

e) Profit from the agricultural operations of the enterprises and the other organizations, by at least 10.1 percent.

2. The volume of capital investments in 1988 is to reach a minimum of 10,500 million leva, in which:

a) The relative percentage of machines and equipment is to rise to over 50 percent, while the relative percentage of architectural and construction works is to fall to around 22 percent, and

b) Priority is to be given to ensuring the construction of the structure-determining projects.

3. The introduction into operation of the basic funds is to be ensured, and the proportion of uncompleted construction within the volume of capital investments is to be reduced.

4. The country's foreign trade goods exchange is to continue to develop dynamically. Direct production links with economic and scientific organizations of the CEMA member countries and, first and foremost, with the USSR are to actively develop.

(2) The attainment of the rates and proportions in the country's development is to be realized on the basis of scientific and technical progress, technological renewal and restructuring of production, radical improvement of the quality and competitiveness of production, and effective utilization of all resources.

Article 2. (1) In conformity with the country's growing economic capabilities, the people's material, intellectual, and social requirements are to continue to be met in an integrated manner. In 1988 the following increases will take place, as compared with 1987:

1. The population's real income, by at least 3.3 percent.

2. Social consumption funds per head of population, by 5.1 percent.

3. Consumer services to the population, by 12.8 percent, while their range is to be diversified, quality improved, and new forms of services broadly applied through developing production sharing, utilization of citizen's individual labor, and the piecework system.

4. Capital investments for the nonproduction sphere are to rise by over 13.0 percent, including:

a) housing, by over 13.0 percent;

b) education, by over 22 percent;

c) health, by over 16.0 percent; and

d) science and scientific services, by over 18.0 percent.

(2) The production of consumer goods is to outstrip the growth of the population's purchasing fund.

(3) In 1988 execution of the housing program is to be speeded up, whereby over 81,000 housing units are to be constructed. By the end of 1988 dwellings equipped with central heating are to reach 24.7 percent of the total housing stock in the towns.

(4) Health aid to the population is to be improved and the supply of the necessary drugs and medicines to the population ensured. Dispensary health checks are to cover 61 percent of the population.

Article 3. (1) Work is to be improved on protecting and restoring the natural environment. Departments, people's councils, and economic organizations are to provide the necessary finance for measures in this field. In 1988 12,600 decares are to be recultivated, 500,000 decares protected against erosion, and 350,000 decares afforested.

(2) The necessary conditions are to be created in 1988 to improve traffic organization, road safety, and driving discipline.

Article 4. (1) The municipal and oblast people's councils, by utilizing the advantages of the country's new territorial organization and the rights granted to them, are to ensure the integrated solution of the tasks relating to the territorial communities' socioeconomic and intellectual development. They are to give priority to solving the problems of bread production, water supply, housing construction, and expansion of the material base for education, culture, and health care.

(2) Resources are to be provided for developing the border regions, the Strandzha-Sakar Region, northwestern Bulgaria, as well as Strazhitsa, Popovo, and the other settlements damaged by the earthquake.

(3) Additional measures are to be taken for further underground railway construction in Sofia.

Article 5. The Council of Ministers is to organize the implementation of the Uniform State Plan for the Scientific-Technical and Socioeconomic Development of Bulgaria in 1988, ensuring conditions for the following:

1. Conducting the strategy for qualitatively new growth of the economy.

2. Expanding self-management in all spheres and activities on the basis of a system of economic standard regulations and regulators and raising the labor collectives' level of interest in the end results of their activity.

3. Efficient management and administration of socialist property on the part of the labor collectives.

Article 6. The Fatherland Front National Council, Central Council of Bulgarian Trade Unions, Central Committee of the Dimitrov Komsomol, Central Council of Scientific-Technical Unions, the Presidium of the Scientific Workers Union, and the leaderships of the other social organizations and movements are urged to actively assist the state organs and the economic organizations in developing socialist emulation on a broad scale and ensuring execution of the tasks stemming from the Uniform State Plan for the Scientific-Technical and Socioeconomic Development of Bulgaria in 1988.

Concluding Instructions [subhead]

Paragraph 1. The Council of Ministers is to examine the proposals of the National Assembly permanent commissions and the people's deputies that were put forward at the seventh session of the National Assembly, and adopt the appropriate decisions.

Paragraph 2. The chairman of the Council of Ministers is charged with implementing this Law.

Officials Address Mikhaylovgrad BCP Session

AU151821 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 12 Dec 87 p 2

[Text] Mikhaylovgrad, 11 December (RABOTNICHESKO DELO reporters' crew)—The constituent conference of the Mikhaylovgrad Oblast BCP organization was held at the "Dragomir Asenov" theater here today. The conference was attended by delegates representing 7,300 communists from 2,270 primary party organizations. Milko Balev, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo, attended the conference.

Trifon Pashov, first secretary of the Mikhaylovgrad Oblast BCP Committee, read a report which described the role, position, and tasks of the oblast party organization in detail, regarding the struggle to implement the decisions of the 13th BCP Congress and the concept for further construction of socialism in the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The report and statements that followed it assessed the dynamic past period and, in a critical and self-critical spirit, evaluated the problems of the former three okrugs, as well as the future prospects of the newly created oblast and the role of the Communists in the restructuring process. Considerable attention was devoted to certain specific problems pertaining to demographic processes and to the establishment of a new technological base, as well as to the cultural development and assertion of the self-managing communities.

Comrade Milko Balev delivered a speech in which he detailed the restructuring requirements described at the BCP Central Committee July plenum. He dwelled on the tasks facing the oblast party organization and the necessity of investing the oblast structure with new meaning and functions. He pointed out that forthcoming work with the transfer of socialist property to the labor collectives, connected with improving the ideological work of the party organizations, and with restructuring the agricultural system is of particular importance.

At its first plenum, the oblast BCP Committee elected Trifon Pashov as its first secretary, as well as Svetozar Petrushkov, Petur Nikolov, and Stoycho Banov as secretaries. Eftim Kostov was elected chairman of the Oblast Control-Auditing Commission. Delegates to the BCP National Conference were elected as well.

BCP Khaskovo Oblast Committee Founded

AU161933 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Text] The constituent conference of the BCP Khaskovo Oblast Organization took place in Khaskovo on 16 December. The speech by Mincho Yovchev, first secretary of the BCP Khaskovo Oblast Committee, and the statements by the delegates pointed out the main directions of the work of the BCP municipal committees and the economic organizations related to applying the BCP's strategic course aimed at restructuring and qualitatively new growth.

In his speech Comrade Pencho Kubadinski pointed out that the main task now is to elevate the ideological and political work in the oblast to the level of the requirements of the 13th BCP Congress and the BCP Central Committee July and November plenums.

The first plenum of the newly elected BCP Khaskovo Oblast Committee took place. Mincho Yovchev was elected first secretary, and Yordan Kostadinov, Kolyo Raynov, and Radi Subev were elected secretaries of the BCP Khaskovo Oblast Committee.

BCP Sofia Oblast Committee Founded

AU151957 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 15 Dec 87

[Text] On 15 December the constituent conference of BCP Sofia Oblast Organization took place at Sofia's Georgi Kirkov Hall. The speech by Lazar Prichkapov, first secretary of the BCP Sofia Oblast Committee, and the statements by the delegates pointed out that communists and all working people from this part of the country are ready to assume the new responsibilities of our time and implement a profound change in the economic, social, and cultural development of the oblast. The delegates outlined the roads to solving the problems related to utilizing basic funds, increasing labor productivity and production quality, and elevating agriculture in the oblast to a new level.

Comrade Stanko Todorov took part in the conference. He spoke on the tasks of the Sofia Oblast Communists, who must contribute in implementing the high tasks posed by the 13th BCP Congress and the subsequent BCP Central Committee July and November Plenums.

The First Plenum of the newly elected BCP Sofia Oblast Committee took place. Lazar Prichkapov was elected first secretary, and Nikola Tonchev, Nikola Nikolov, and Vasil Ganchev were elected secretaries of the BCP Sofia Oblast Committee.

Husak 'Resigns,' CC Elects Jakes

LD171356 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1300 GMT 17 Dec 87

[Text] The seventh session of the CPCZ Central Committee started in the Spanish Hall of Prague Castle today.

At its morning session, the Central Committee examined the request from Comrade Gustav Husak to be released from the post of general secretary and member of the Secretariat of the CPCZ Central Committee. Having weighed the reasons that led to this decision, it complied with his request.

The Central Committee highly appreciated the work done by Comrade Gustav Husak in the post of general secretary of the party Central Committee, thanked him for his longstanding, creative, and fruitful activity heading the party, and expressed confidence that by his experiences, he will, in the post of president of the republic and member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium, continue to contribute actively to successfully solving challenging tasks for the further development of socialism in our homeland.

The Central Committee then discussed a proposal for the election of the general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee. Comrade Gustav Husak proposed, on his own behalf and on behalf of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium, Comrade Milos Jakes, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, to be elected to the post.

Jiri Bruckner, Gejza Slapka, Marie Musilkova, Vladimir Hajko, Vaclav Sipek, Tomas Travnicek, and Antonin Kapek spoke in the discussion.

Participants in the session then elected unanimously Comrade Milos Jakes to the post of general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee.

Comrade Milos Jakes expressed gratitude for the great trust shown to him in his election to the post of general secretary of the party Central Committee. He assured the Central Committee that he will contribute all his efforts to the CPCZ to successfully fulfill its revolutionary mission and tasks set by the present day. At the same time he thanked Comrade Gustav Husak for the great work that he has done in more than 18 years as head of the CPCZ Central Committee. He wished Comrade Gustav Husak, as the president of the republic and as member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium to continue work for many more years.

The program of the 17th congress, Comrade Milos Jakes said, which we shall work out in more detail at today's session, remains the main directive for our work. It is a realistic and highly humane program to fulfill the main goal of the party's policy—the all-around development of man and of his creative abilities, the material and intellectual increase of the standard of people's lives, and the providing of social justice, the certainties of life, civil rights, and freedoms.

The CPCZ Central Committee session will continue in the afternoon. According to the approved agenda, it will discuss a report of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium for the consistent implementation of the line of the 17th CPCZ Congress for the acceleration of economic and social development, for comprehensive restructuring, for deepening socialist democracy, which will be delivered by Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee.

CC Praises Husak

LD171500 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1300 GMT 17 Dec 87

[Decision adopted by the CPCZ Central Committee at 17 December session of the CPCZ Central Committee—read by announcer]

[Text] The CPCZ Central Committee examined the request of Comrade Gustav Husak to be released from the post of general secretary and member of the Secretariat of the CPCZ Central Committee. Having weighed all the reasons that led Comrade Gustav Husak to this decision, it complied with his request.

Czechoslovak communists highly esteem and appreciate the work done by Comrade Gustav Husak in the post of general secretary of the party Central Committee. Comrade Gustav Husak belongs to a generation of communists that was formed and tempered in the struggle of the working class against the rule of capitalism, which mobilized people's masses for the defense of the republic, which headed the national liberation struggle against fascism, which was a moving force of the national and democratic revolution, which was an organizer of the victory of working people in February 1948, and which laid the foundations of socialism in our country.

Comrade Gustav Husak was a leading personality of the Slovak National Uprising. He remained a principled communist and did not lose faith in the ideals of communism even at the time when he was the victim of gross violation of socialist legitimacy. He has shown his courage and loyalty to the working class cause, to the Czechoslovak people, and his devotion to the Soviet Union also in the crisis-ridden years of 1968-1969.

The election of Comrade Gustav Husak to head the party in April 1969 was a demonstration of the respect and esteem that he won from Czechoslovak communists and all our people as a revolutionary, patriot, and consistent internationalist.

We link overcoming the crisis-ridden period and the decisive move toward strengthening the ideological and organizational unity of the party and its Leninist character with the activity of Comrade Gustav Husak in the highest party post.

His election to the post of president of the CSSR in 1975 was an expression of the all-people mandate of trust in and appreciation of his political wisdom and his high authority in our society and abroad. Comrade Gustav Husak has contributed historically to the fact that after a deep social and political split at the end of the 1960s, the consolidation process in the party and society was carried out successfully, the Leninist concept of equal coexistence of nation and nationalities in the CSSR was ensured, and the true values of socialism in our country were renewed.

The CSSR, a politically, economically, socially, and culturally advanced state, has a firm place in the socialist community. The CPCZ has strengthened and is developing ties with the international communist and workers' movement. The successful path of our party, embarked on after the 14th CPCZ Congress, is directly linked with the personality of Comrade Gustav Husak. This successful path linked to him is also a confirmation of the present deep changes, which, in harmony with the program of the 17th CPCZ Congress, is aimed at implementing the strategy of accelerating socioeconomic development, deepening socialist democracy, and the all-around restructuring of the life of our society.

The CPCZ Central Committee sincerely thanks Comrade Gustav Husak for his longstanding, creative, and fruitful activity as the head of the party. The committee wishes him good health and expresses the conviction that through his rich experiences he will continue in the post of president of the CSSR and member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and to contribute actively to successfully solving the challenging tasks of the further development of socialism in our country.

The CPCZ Central Committee elected Comrade Milos Jakes to the post of general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee.

CPCZ Presidium Approves Berlin Meeting Report

LD170055 Prague CTK in English
2057 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Text] Prague Dec 16 (CTK)—General Secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and President Gustav Husak delivered a report at a party presidium session here Wednesday on the recent meeting of the Warsaw Treaty countries' party leaders in Berlin.

The Czechoslovak Communist Party Presidium expressed support for the meeting's results, highly appreciating Mikhail Gorbachev's information about the Washington summit. The Czechoslovak Communist officials expressed gratitude to the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, the Soviet Government and to Mikhail Gorbachev for their efforts to make real progress in disarmament, mainly in the nuclear sphere. The Berlin meeting confirmed the unity of the fraternal socialist countries and the significance of their coordinated peace foreign policies.

The presidium also dealt with the implementation of the 1988 state plan, criticizing the fact that the overall fulfilment of targets of economic plans was not ensured satisfactorily, mainly in the spheres of qualitative indicators, capital construction and home and foreign trade supplies.

The delegates stressed the necessity to focus the efforts of the leading party officials and executives on resolute overcoming of the existing difficulties in the interest of further social and economic development.

Bilak Addresses Soviet Friendship Session

AU160915 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak
14 Dec 87 pp 1,2

[Speech by Vasil Bilak, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, at the 10th Congress of the Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship Society in Prague on 12 December]

[Text] Esteemed Comrades, dear friends; we are sincerely glad to have the honor of attending your congress and at the same time to have the pleasant duty to convey greetings to you, and through you to all members of your society, from the CPCZ Central Committee, the Central Committee of the National Front, the Federal Government, and from Comrade Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and CSSR President.

The report delivered by Comrade Bochenek and the discussion up to now show that the union's work has been good. You know where shortcomings are, how to resolve them and, in particular, what tasks you will be facing in the future. In my speech I want to concentrate only on some issues, which might contribute to consideration of the tasks facing us.

The Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship Society [SCSP] has a special role in our society: taking an active part in the elaboration and realization of the CPCZ's policy, particularly in the educational sphere, and informing our citizens about what is happening in the Soviet Union, in Soviet society. But not only that. At the same time its task is to comprehensively develop all spheres of human activity in order to strengthen the friendship between our and the Soviet nations.

Even though I cannot speak about all issues, I will touch upon at least some of them. From the international point of view, the most topical is the visit by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the United States, and the signing of the

treaty on the elimination of medium-range and shorter-range missiles. This is an event of truly historic importance. After complex negotiations, preparations, and dealing with hundreds of obstacles, the first step has been made on a long, difficult road, at the end of which there should be nuclear disarmament. This could fulfill the hope that mankind will enter the third millennium without the threat of nuclear weapons. This would be worthy of the human spirit.

However, experience teaches us that it will not be easy to achieve this desired goal. We must not succumb to illusions that imperialism is as quick on the uptake as we are, that imperialism will be better, more sensible, that it will stop trying to harm socialism wherever it has an opportunity to do so. We must also be prepared for the most reactionary forces of imperialism to still create more than one obstacle, to pull down more than one bridge to impede progress toward disarmament. The important thing is that the first step has been made, and we are convinced that this step is in the right direction and that common sense and peace will prevail.

This corresponds to our aspirations, and the CSSR and all our people not only fully endorse this effort, but also want—with all their might—to contribute to its fulfillment. Also from this platform, as the Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee stressed, we want to thank the CPSU, the Soviet Government, and Comrade M. Gorbachev personally for his initiative, perseverance, and boldness in asserting new thinking in international relations.

The great revolutionary changes currently under way in the Soviet Union and the entire socialist community affect all spheres of society's life. The process initiated by the April session of the CPSU Central Committee in 1985 and the 27th Congress of the Soviet Communists has been meeting with a great response in the socialist countries and throughout the world. All that we are witnessing in the Soviet Union is summarized by a single word—perestroyka. The term Perestroyka is being widely grammatically declined in all languages and all continents today. Its content is expressed by a radical economic reform, democratization, and new thinking. It is a very complex revolutionary process, supported by the party and the people, although not everyone comprehends it immediately.

Like any new, revolutionary rebirth, perestroyka—which actually is such a rebirth—elicits different views and attitudes, and the current process is developing as an active, creative, and responsible struggle to concretely implement the tasks and objectives of this revolutionary restructuring in life. It is, above all, a test of industriousness. The main and decisive thing is that it is being carried out under the CPSU's leadership. It is the Leninist party which, on the basis of a profound analysis of the past and the present, defines the new, historically significant tasks of our times, for the full utilization of the material and intellectual potential of socialism, for the good of man, for peace on our planet.

To a considerable extent, your work, too, will concentrate on broadly clarifying and explaining the entire complex of this course to our people, so that they can grasp its substance and purpose. There is no need to look for some sort of enigmas here or scheming, or a momentary opportunity. The important thing is to realize that what is involved here is the continuation of the historic feat of the Great October Socialist Revolution, initiated 70 years ago. Revolutionary processes, too, have their upsurges and respites. The Great October differs from all preceding revolutions in that, among other things, we know its beginning, but can only foresee its end.

Further development is taking place every day under new conditions, with new energy, toward a single objective—building a socially just, democratic, continuously developing society. Its role will be fulfilled when mankind creates a better, more just social order, a world without wars, oppression, exploitation, racial discrimination, a world with new personal and international relations, a world of happy people that have equal rights. This is the Great October's historic mission.

It is a long and complex task. It will require much work and effort from many future generations. However, only such a road is comprehensible and acceptable to mankind. Today the world faces this fundamental question: Who and what social order can solve the accumulated political, economic, social, human, end ecological problems? Capitalism or socialism? The answer has to be sought in history, but also in the present. Over centuries, capitalism—even when it was the sole master of the world—did not resolve man's fundamental social issues. On the contrary, new and even more complex issues have been added to the old ones. In a world marked by a rapid development of technology, a considerable degree of prosperity and culture, great possibilities to satisfy the fundamental needs of people's lives, we witness considerable backwardness, social inequality, and tension that endure in this world. There are hundreds of millions of starving, illiterate, and unemployed people, people without prospects. Experts have calculated that at present there are 400 million unemployed in the world. By the end of the century the world population will increase by another 600 million. At the same time 11 million children do not live to be 1 year old. The developing world is downright tragically indebted. It's lag behind the advanced countries is increasing. Social, class, and political tension is not decreasing, but continues to increase.

Neocolonialism, literally like a vampire, is sucking the blood of the developing world, preventing its healthy development. Expecting international imperialism to

mend its ways is unthinkable. It has created them and it is also their catalyst. This can only be eliminated by a society based on the elimination of all oppression. And that society is socialism.

Socialism is a young society which is constantly developing. It is not an error of history, it is not on the verge of a breakdown or undergoing a crisis, as some so-called experts claim. It is sufficient to take a look at what has happened in the world in the past 70 years.

In an unbelievably difficult struggle for its existence, socialism has succeeded in overcoming all obstacles and pitfalls and has affirmed its historical existence. This has not happened through the will of supernatural forces, but on the foundation of the objective laws of the development of human society. Socialism is the new calendar of mankind, which reduces the strength of imperialism and adds this strength to socialism.

History has proved that those who said that the earth turns are correct. Socialism is not being built by gods, but by living people with their proneness to errors and with their shortcomings, and it is marked with this birthmark. But as things usually are, the birth of everything new is painful. We learn from mistakes and errors, we want to rectify them, and avoid repeating them in the future. In this lies the dialectics of our development. In this we see our strength and future.

As you certainly know, important documents are to be on the agenda of the CPCZ Central Committees' deliberations, documents pertaining to the acceleration of our society's social and economic development. These are significant and important documents which affect everyone's life. However, we all know that miracles are not born of documents and resolutions, no matter how good they are, but of people's creative and selfless work. I do not think we can complain of a lack of resolutions and various directives. On the contrary, we have more than enough of them. And we also know how to elaborate them. The problem, unfortunately, is that we are lagging behind in their implementation and consistent supervision; it is precisely here that we are lagging behind, which in turn is manifested in various ways in the life of the whole society. Here we must learn more from restructuring in the Soviet Union, which is characterized by thoroughness, profound understanding, and consistent application in practice. In our country we frequently expend the greater effort in drafting resolutions and at times in copying them, but less in putting them into practice. We are satisfied with having drafted a beautiful document.

The West accuses us of lagging behind the Soviet Union in restructuring in Czechoslovakia. Not so long ago it was accusing us of copying everything from the Soviets. We have to set about making creative use of Soviet experience and the comprehensive lesson from the restructuring of Soviet society, and we have to know how to develop and apply them correctly in our country. Each communist party—and this has also been stressed by the CPSU—draws up the program for building socialism which corresponds to the historical conditions of individual countries.

One of the basic lessons arrived at by the CPSU in its analysis is that a certain stagnation occurred in Soviet society in recent years. From this followed the conclusion that, to use Comrade Gorbachev's words at the January session of the CPSU Central Committee, it is essential to "breath new life into all cells of the social organism." In his address on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, Mikhail Gorbachev very vividly described the path traversed by the Soviet Union in the past 70 years. It was a path of heroism, selflessness, and successes, but also one of mistakes and tragic errors. Only the CPSU was able to objectively approach the assessment of the preceding periods, to show what is the truth, ponder its work, and adopt the proper conclusions for the future.

The material and spiritual potentials built up in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries over the past decades are so great that it would be irresponsible and outright sinful if we failed to create the requisite scope for their development and to provide them with a reliable direction for their further comprehensive development for the benefit of socialism and communism. In this we see a historical and revolutionary movement in the interest not only of Soviet society, but also the other countries of the socialist community, to the benefit of all peace-loving and progressive forces of the world. [sentence as published] It is necessary to realize and come to understand this fact, to draw lessons from it, to think about ways of improving one's work, and about its contribution to the well-being of society and each individual.

Having drawn a lesson from the past, we know that this process must be spearheaded by a united Marxist-Leninist party that is capable of action, has enough strength to create, develop, direct, and guide this process, that is also capable of recognizing exigencies before it is too late, and is not afraid of adjusting its approaches a bit if necessary. Only under the party's guidance can matters of such complexity be successfully resolved and implemented. Our support for Soviet restructuring cannot consist in our loud endorsement of it, in our applause for it, in our mechanically copying it, but it must consist in the implementation of such political-organizational and cadre steps as are conducive to the utilization of all our potentials and of Soviet experiences to speed up the development of the socialist society.

Each country should contribute the biggest possible share to the enrichment of socialism. We in Czechoslovakia avail ourselves of the best prerequisites to demonstrate what can be accomplished by a country that set out on the path of building socialism from the position of advanced capitalism, by a country with considerable democratic traditions which, moreover, was able to walk

on an at least partially paved road and did not have to cut its way through thorny footpaths. We must not be indolent in thinking. Seeing and repeating the selfsame problem only in its general aspects rather than in specific conditions will not take us to any positive end.

Let us mention just one example. The Soviet Union must quickly overcome its food problem, it must ensure good and regular supplies of all necessary foodstuffs to the population. At its 15th congress the CPCZ adopted the program to achieve self-sufficiency in food. We have reached this goal. Are we perhaps wiser and more industrious than the Soviet people? The substance of the matter lies elsewhere. We had incomparably better, more favorable conditions for reaching that goal. Our village was in a relatively advanced and consolidated state when it made its transition to the socialist cooperative form of production. The workers class and Czechoslovak industry were able to give our rural areas great material, technical, and personnel support.

Soviet Russia inherited a rather backward village. On top of that, agriculture had to contribute to the country's absolutely essential industrialization. If we add to this the terrible years of World War II and various theoretical and practical mistakes, we will see what a huge piece of rock needs to be cleared away for Soviet agriculture to advance at a faster pace.

All conceivable measures are being put to use at present to speed up this process. One of the illusions that had to be overcome was that socialism could be built quickly and easily, even within a specified number of years. It is good that we have realized in time that the opposite is true, and that much will have to be mended and perhaps even overhauled. This realization should not arouse uncertainty in anyone, let alone make him sound the retreat. On the contrary, it helps us to prove that we know where we are going and what we want. One of the reasons I mention this is that these matters have to be correctly explained to the young generation.

One of the primary tasks of the anticommunist centers, of the entire ideological machinery of imperialism, is to sow doubts among the younger generation about the certainty of a socialist tomorrow. Let us not criticize the young people for frequently having different views, or for not understanding and accepting all things in the way we older people do. Older people always like to criticize the young. They also used to criticize us, and their judgments about us were not too complimentary, either. But it was our generation which fought capitalism and laid the foundations of socialism. Young people always differ from the old, they must differ. An elderly person likes to reminisce about the past; a younger one thinks and plans in terms of the future. Our young people are perceptive, educated, sensitive, and good. What they need are more good examples: at school, during their apprenticeship, at work, and particularly in the family. Deplorably, it is precisely in the family that the young people can witness how words diverge from deeds. This is yet another great shortcoming which we must tear out by the roots from the life of our society.

Esteemed Comrades, permit me to dwell on one other issue. We are on the threshold of the year 1988. We will be commemorating significant anniversaries and events: the 70th anniversary of the emergence of our Czechoslovak Republic, the 50th anniversary of ignominious Munich, and the 40th anniversary of Victorious February; moreover, soon 20 years will have passed since the CPCZ Central Committee Session of January 1968. All these anniversaries will provide us with a source of great energy and knowledge for our political-educational work. Our enemies will undoubtedly do their utmost to use them, or rather to misuse them, for their own purposes. This particularly applies to the year 1968. That is why I think it is so important to recall and stress once again that January 1968 was objectively inevitable. The main thing was to rectify the mistakes and remove the distortions that had cropped up in the preceding period and had not been dealt with, due to a lack of courage. A serious political crisis was growing in Czechoslovakia. Because of this, the economic reform could not be carried out, the line of the 13th CPCZ Congress was not implemented. The CPCZ began to rectify the shortcomings and mistakes, and—regrettably—also the tragic errors of the fifties at a time time when it was ideologically weakened itself, when it was scarcely active and almost incapable of becoming active. Moreover, the Central Committee and gradually even the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium came to include unstable people, even people with an antisocialist orientation, who used the existing opportunities to join the side of the "rectifiers of mistakes."

Today we know very well that these forces pursued other goals, goals aimed at weakening socialism. That is why they strove—covertly, but all the more persistently and cunningly—to revive the vestiges of bourgeois theories and views, to evoke illusions about capitalism, to revive nationalism and anti-Soviet moods, and to cast doubt on the status of the workers class, on the CPCZ's leading role, and on the orientation of the CSSR's foreign policy toward the Soviet Union. A situation was gradually created in which the intentions of the CPCZ Central Committee's January session were no longer implemented and the program of the right-wing opportunist and opposition forces began to be carried out.

It is mainly these people who have been asking whether the events of 1968 should not be reappraised. The anticommunist centers already have detailed plans for this, and it is no coincidence that a Japanese journalist asked about this at a Moscow press conference; various Western agencies constantly revert to this, speculating about this, and elaborating their notions. They often operate with unqualified arguments, such as what would happen if this or that were to happen. History knows nothing about "what would happen, if"—history knows and recognizes only facts.

True, many past events could be reassessed—the thing is, from which positions and with what purpose in mind? Our appraisal of the Munich diktat differed from Chamberlain's; our assessment of the displacement of Germans differs from that of certain forces in the FRG. In 1968 the revisionists and opportunists tried to reappraise February 1948 and the Fifth CPCZ Congress, casting doubts on the historical significance of the CPCZ's very establishment and legitimacy; they even started reappraising the justification of the decision made by the people of Transcarpathian Ukraine to join their mother, Soviet Ukraine. All this was done from positions of anti-Sovietism and antisocialism; it is not difficult to guess what conclusions they would have reached.

Considerable efforts are today focused on reassessing and casting doubts on the document "Lessons From the Critical Development in the Party and Society After the 13th CPCZ Congress." If we defend this document, this does not mean that we are against scientifically studying facts in order to deepen our knowledge of the truth about this period. However, the basic truth that a broad anticommunist coalition was established in the CSSR in 1968 and that the political system was about to be imbued with a new structure, aimed at reversing socialist development, continues to be immutable. It is as stated in the Lessons: "A truthful knowledge of the entire background of the actual situation in 1968, as well as of all motives which led to the allied troops entering the CSSR, shows up in their true light all the lies, slanders, and intentional distortions of reality concerning the August events, as fabricated and spread by our domestic reaction, by right-wing opportunists, and by foreign bourgeois propaganda."

An erudite historian cannot fail to come to the same conclusion as that contained in the Lessons, if he honestly adheres to facts and if he stands by Marxist-Leninist positions. It is more than certain that many of those who are now casting doubts on the Lessons would have found themselves in the same situation as some of those who, after the Hungarian counterrevolution, avowed that they had wanted no bloodshed.

If the Soviet Union today, under the party's leadership, is eliminating everything that causes stagnation and slows down development, then in the Czechoslovakia of 1968 everything was being released that was meant to contribute toward restoring capitalism and destroying socialism.

Efforts to find a parallel between things that are now happening in the Soviet Union and the year 1968 in Czechoslovakia are insincere. At first glance, events could seem similar or even identical. But approximately from May 1968, the developments in Czechoslovakia were already filled with new content and followed a new direction. A gradual, well-considered dismantling of the socialist social system was underway. To compare restructuring in the USSR with what was happening in the CSSR in 1968 is to insult truth and human reason. Such is the truth; and, to quote old Seneca, truth should be told only to those who want to hear it.

This is the way the 14th CPCZ Congress and the Congresses following it appraised the developments of 1968. Based on these standpoints, the party became unified and continues to consolidate its unity and its links with the people. Everybody who recognizes this is welcome to cooperate, in any way. There are no prospects for speculative efforts to reassess or justify the policy whose consequences deluded hundreds of thousands of innocent people and led them astray.

Our road is the road of socialism, the road of recognizing the CPCZ's leading role, the road of firm alliance and friendship with the Soviet Union—and nobody will lead us astray from this road, neither with promises nor with threats.

Esteemed Comrades, our friendship with the Soviet Union was born in and has emerged from deep historical knowledge, and not according to some instruction. It was not produced or shaped by any personalities, it was fixed for all times as a historical realization that the Soviet Union is our most loyal friend and that we will always firmly stand at its side. Every real patriot, everybody who loves his fatherland—the CSSR—wants it to have a reliable ally. The Soviet Union is just such an ally; and we will do our utmost to return, protect, and multiply this loyalty.

As early as the SCSP's constituent congress, Klement Gottwald expressed great appreciation of the organization's significance, but also stressed that its great task is to "stand guard over the Czechoslovak-Soviet alliance and mobilize all our people for this— to say loudly and to everybody that we will march at the side of the Soviet Union, always and in everything, and never otherwise." And today, too, the SCSP's main task is to consolidate, deepen, improve, and guard our ties of alliance and friendship with the Soviet Union, all that is sacred and dear to us.

Proceeding from profound historical awareness and a deep knowledge of the current tasks and requirements of world progress, we will march jointly with the Soviet people on the road of creatively developing the ideas of Great October, making use of the great material and spiritual forces created by socialism. This alliance ensures our national security and independence, and safeguards the path of new successes in developing the socialist revolution.

INF Treaty Implementation Verification Viewed

AU171028 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 14 Dec 87 p 6

[Milan Jelinek commentary in the "We Comment" column: "Code of Trust"]

[Text] The agreement between the CSSR, USSR, and GDR on inspections, which was signed by the ministers of foreign affairs of the three countries involved on

Friday [11 December] in Berlin, is part and parcel of the Soviet-American treaty on the elimination of medium-range and operational-tactical missiles.

The first document on nuclear disarmament has finally been worked out on the Soviet-American level. The set of documents (the Berlin agreement is part of it) defines, in a binding and precise manner, the method to be used in removing what is, for the time being, the first installment of nuclear weapons from the territories of nine states. The Warsaw Pact member states have done their full share. For their part, they have done all that is essential and necessary to make it possible to begin the process of nuclear disarmament.

As everybody knows, the issue of control [kontrola] predominated in the final phase of the Soviet-American treaty negotiations. This issue concerned an immensely complicated, demanding, and laborious problem, as proved by the published texts of documents. In Reykjavik, at the time of his second meeting with President Reagan, Mikhail Gorbachev already declared that the Soviet Union is no less interested than the United States in the subject of control of the implementation of a possible treaty, both by national technical means, that is, by keeping watch via satellite, but also on the spot. Surprisingly, for a time, the United States had certain difficulties with the new stand adopted by the USSR (which corresponds to American demands voiced previously). It became obvious that certain U.S. circles could not reconcile themselves to reciprocal Soviet control on American territory. However, in the end, the American Government recognized that the Soviet stand is justified, and the two states created a control and verification mechanism that, like the treaty itself, is a pioneering feat in the history of disarmament negotiations.

All the necessary principles and guarantees have been adopted to prevent either of the sides from feeling that the other side is not fulfilling the adopted commitments. Control is the key to the smooth implementation of disarmament measures, in line with the agreed timetable.

Moreover, control revives the atmosphere of trust. It is even a kind of code of trust. Through the example of a specific act, it proves that disarmament is both possible and feasible and that, instead of weakening national security, it strengthens this security, thus serving the collective security of the world. At the same time, the control and verification principles adopted by the USSR and the United States, and together with them by their allies, are erecting a pillar that will serve as a support for further negotiations on disarmament (and not only nuclear disarmament)—without any doubt, our primary and most significant task.

At all their joint meetings, and also in bilateral talks, the socialist states that are members of the Warsaw Pact have declared time and again that their goal is a world free of nuclear arms. They have stressed that they will not exclude any kind of weapon in disarmament—all the while maintaining comprehensive control and verification. The Berlin conference has expressed appreciation for the Soviet Union's consistent and energetic effort, which has led to the first step in nuclear disarmament.

Socialist Czechoslovakia has done all it could to contribute constructively to an operative solution on specific issues linked to the implementation of the treaty, but also regarding issues that represent its contents.

We judge that Europe is our common home. The set of documents on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles—which was also signed by us and which has an international character, since it concerns nine states—contributes toward the desirable development of cooperation and understanding in Europe. It consolidates mutual security, because it is primarily from Europe that the first nuclear missiles are being removed.

Both as a whole, and in its individual provisions, the treaty corresponds to the vital security interests of our state and our nations. The fact is that Czechoslovakia is getting rid of a direct nuclear threat, posed by the 72 American nuclear warheads on Pershing-1A-type missiles deployed close to our Western borders in the FRG. Some of them are targeted on Czechoslovak cities. Their exclusively military purpose has been to deliver a nuclear strike to Czechoslovak territory.

We have signed the Berlin agreement on inspections with feelings of joint responsibility for the "European home." This, too, is part of the historic step at the beginning of nuclear disarmament.

Foreign Ministry Release on Geneva Talks

AU041451 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 3 Dec 87 p 2

[CTK report: "Important Step Toward Strengthening Peace; Declaration on Geneva Negotiations by the Press Spokesman of the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs"]

[Text] Prague (CTK)—Declaration of the press spokesman of the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the negotiations of the Committee for Chemical Weapons of the Disarmament Conference in Geneva:

The Committee for Chemical Weapons has reopened its negotiations at the Disarmament Conference in Geneva. The negotiations are meant to prepare an international accord on the general and total ban on chemical weapons, and on eliminating the stockpiles of them. The basic key issues, including those of verification, have been successfully resolved. Dusan Rovensky, the press spokesman of the CSSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, declared that now the main thing is to work out the technical aspects of destroying chemical weapons and the industrial base for their production; to elaborate the methods

of preventing the production of chemical weapons by civilian chemical industry; and, above all, to work out the verification mechanism.

These issues can be resolved and the text of the accord prepared in a relatively short time, provided all participants in the Geneva conference have the appropriate political will.

The participating states should not undertake any steps that could complicate a speedy achievement of mutually acceptable agreements or slow it down. The CSSR is prepared to do its utmost to help accelerate the elaboration of the text of the accord. We are convinced that the negotiations can already be realistically concluded in 1987.

The CSSR is also interested in speeding up the regional solution of the issues by creating a chemical-weapon-free zone in central Europe. This would significantly contribute to a worldwide ban on chemical weapons, the press spokesman of the CSSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs stressed.

Foreign Ministry Release on Geneva Talks

AU041451 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak
3 Dec 87 p 2

[CTK report: "Important Step Toward Strengthening Peace; Declaration on Geneva Negotiations by the Press Spokesman of the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs"]

[Text] Prague (CTK)—Declaration of the press spokesman of the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the negotiations of the Committee for Chemical Weapons of the Disarmament Conference in Geneva:

The Committee for Chemical Weapons has reopened its negotiations at the Disarmament Conference in Geneva. The negotiations are meant to prepare an international accord on the general and total ban on chemical weapons, and on eliminating the stockpiles of them. The basic key issues, including those of verification, have been successfully resolved. Dusan Rovensky, the press spokesman of the CSSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, declared that now the main thing is to work out the technical aspects of destroying chemical weapons and the industrial base for their production; to elaborate the methods of preventing the production of chemical weapons by civilian chemical industry; and, above all, to work out the verification mechanism.

These issues can be resolved and the text of the accord prepared in a relatively short time, provided all participants in the Geneva conference have the appropriate political will.

The participating states should not undertake any steps that could complicate a speedy achievement of mutually acceptable agreements or slow it down. The CSSR is prepared to do its utmost to help accelerate the elaboration of the text of the accord. We are convinced that the negotiations can already be realistically concluded in 1987.

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Status of CSCE Follow-up Meeting Viewed

DW161428 East Berlin Voice of GDR Domestic Service in German 1505 GMT 15 Dec 87

(Guenter Leuschner dispatch from Vienna)

[Text] As has been reported, the Warsaw Pact and NATO countries during their talks in Vienna on the preparations for the negotiations on the reduction of forces and arms in Europe have reached agreement on another area. As a result of that step forward, which was achieved several days following the Washington summit meeting, the convocation of a European disarmament conference has come nearer. Guenter Leuschner reports from Vienna.

What was agreed upon by the 23 delegations, and what has been described by the Vienna press today as an important step forward, are the goals and methods of the envisaged European disarmament negotiations. In other simpler words, what do they intend to achieve, and in what way? The primary task is establishing a stable and secure balance of conventional forces and arms at a lower level. The term reduction is used in that context, and it was not easy to agree on that. Both sides— NATO and the Warsaw Pact—are under the obligation to reduce their forces and arms, and it took NATO quite some time to state its readiness to accept such an obligation. Now it has the mandate, and that in itself constitutes a step forward. Three other terms on which agreement was reached are of importance and will play a considerable role in future negotiations.

Imbalances, so-called asymmetries, jeopardizing stability amd security in Europe would be eliminated. For a long time that has been the subject of heated and sometimes biased discussion in the West, as if imbalances always were only at NATO's disadvantage. Once the data is on the table, there will be a memorable awakening for some people. NATO, for instance, has a larger population potential than the Warsaw Pact, and thus necessarily also more reservists. The Warsaw Pact reportedly is somewhat stronger in Central Europe than NATO. On the other hand, the ratio on the two blocs' southern flanks is vice versa. NATO says that we have more tanks and artillery, whereas NATO is superior in offensive forces— aircrafat and helicopter gunships. The list of such assymmetries is longer.

It will certainly not be easy to solve the problems related to it. But once that data is on the table, and the sides act on the principle that imbalances are not eliminated by building up arms—or counterarmament—but by reducing them—in other words, whoever has more has to disarm more—in that case the problems can well be solved. What is also helpful in that respect is the fact that agreement has also been reached on the removal of weapons potentials allowing surprise attacks and large-scale offensives. That means that offensive weapons would be reduced to a larger degree than other weapons. That term—offensive weapons—has not been defined exactly, but both sides say that it includes primarily missiles, tanks, specific types of artillery, fighter bombers, and bombers. The inclusion of those airforce categories in reduction negotiations—something the Warsaw Pact has always demanded—has been viewed critically by NATO for some time. However, the issue apparently is now clarified.

Emphasizing the reduction of offensive potentials is, of course, particularly important for the countries on the dividing line of the two military blocs where most troops and weapons are concentrated, including the GDR and the FRG. They should be particularly committed to working for that area of the Vienna accords. The GDR has repeatedly stated that. Zones of specially limited armaments as well as nuclear- and chemical weapons-free corridors are becoming even more important because they help prevent surprise attacks. Thus, even though the partial agreement reached in Vienna does not mean that all problems related to work at the negotiation mandate have been solved, the delegations have in fact made good headway. Following a brief Christmas recess, the group of twenty-three will continue its work on 25 January.

Foreign Ministry Condemns Israeli Acts

LD161604 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1416 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Text] Berlin, 16 Dec (ADN)—In a statement to ADN, GDR Foreign Ministry Spokesman Ambassador Wolfgang Meyer condemned Tel Aviv's latest acts of serious terrorism in the Arab territories occupied by Israel. He regrets that there have been numerous victims among the civilian Arab population. There is a pressing need to remove the causes of the long conflict in the Middle East.

There have been relevant proposals by the USSR on this, the spokesman continued which are supported by the majority of UN member states, and by the GDR and the Arab states and the political forces in this region. They aim to achieve a political solution to the dangerous conflict through collective efforts which guarantees the right to self-determination of the Palestinian people and which will lead to a just and lasting peace in the region. In conclusion, ambassador Wolfgang Meyer stated that the GDR will therefore committedly support the calling of an international Middle East Peace conference.

Goetting Attends France-GDR Society Congress

AU161651 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 14 Dec 87 pp 1,2

[Excerpt] Lyon—The 11th National Congress of the France-GDR Society ended in Lyon on Sunday [13 December] with the adoption of a greetings message to GDR State Council Chairman Erich Honecker. The 400 delegates representing 14,460 members in all parts of France welcomed Erich Honecker's state visit at the beginning of January and expressed the wish that the talks that will be held at the highest level and with

numerous French personalities will contribute to better mutual understanding and to the expansion of cooperation in the interest of detente, friendship, and peace.

The 2 days of talks were characterized by this upcoming highlight in relations between France and the GDR. The delegates from 56 of the country's provinces gave a cordial welcome to a delegation from the GDR League of Friendship Among Peoples headed by Gerald Goetting, deputy chairman of the GDR State Council.

In its 30 years of existence the France-GDR Society has not only worked to bring the peoples of France and the GDR closer together, but was also in the forefront of those advocating peace, disarmament, detente, and cooperation in Europe, acting General Secretary Francois Riviere stressed in his report. He paid tribute to the GDR's policy of dialogue and stated that the reaffirmation that war must never again start from German soil was one of the most important results of Erich Honecker's official visit to the FRG.

The report and the discussion focused on numerous activities of the friends of the GDR in France, which range from exhibitions, film and video performances, cultural and sports events, and the organizing of study trips and holidays, to the promotion of the exchange between universities in the two countries and town-twinning agreements.

Gerald Goetting conveyed most cordial greetings from the GDR State Council Chairman. Erich Honecker had asked him to convey the pleasure with which he is looking forward to the upcoming meeting between the representatives of the France-GDR Society on the occasion of his official state visit to France in January. The dialogue between the leading representatives of the two states is in the interest of both peoples, and will further promote mutual understanding and contribute to strengthening the friendly relations, Goetting stated. [passage omitted]

Health Minister Receives Albanian Delegation

LD151624 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1415 GMT 15 Dec 87

[Text] Berlin, 15 Dec (ADN)—A delegation from the Albanian Health Ministry held a talk with GDR Health Minister Prof Ludwig Mecklinger in Berlin on Tuesday. Current results of cooperation in the health field are an important step toward the further deepening of relations between the two states and peoples, Minister Mecklinger said.

The head of the Albanian delegation, Dr Gjergji Minga [name as received] stated his country's interest in continuing and expanding the existing agreements between the health ministries of the two coutnries.

The interlocutors briefed each other on important decisions and tasks in the social policy field.

Foreign Delegations Attend Writers Congress

AU270933 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German
25 Nov 87 p 3

[List of "international guests" attending the three-day long GDR Writers Congress in East Berlin]

[Text] Democratic Republic of Afghanistan: Rafaat Husseini [name as published], secretary of the Association of Afghan Writers and Poets;

Republic of Argentina: Enrique Carlos Alberto de Filipis Novoa, member of the Society of Argentine Writers (S.A.D.E.); Alfredo Bauer, S.A.D.E. member; People's Republic of Bulgaria: Efrem Karanfilov, deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Writers Union; Luchezar Elenkov, chief secretary of the Bulgarian Writers Union; Petur Atanasov, member of the leadership of the Bulgarian Writers Union;

Afro-Asian Writers Organization (seat in India): Bhishan Sahni, secretary general;

Chile Antifascista: Omar Saavedra Santis;

Republic of Finland: Jorma Kannila, chairman of the Finnish Writers Union; Pekka Suhonen, deputy chairman of the Finnish Writers Union;

Republic of Iraq: Khaza al-Majedi, member of the Executive Committee of the Iraqi Writers Association; Behran al-Bazi, member of the Executive Committee of the Iraqi Writers Association [names as published];

SFRY: Ivan Ivanji, secretary of the Yugoslav Writers Federation; Georgi Stardelov, member of the Presidium of the Yugoslav Writers Federation and chairman of the Macedonian Writers Federation;

DPRK: Ri In-dzik, deputy chairman of the Korean Writers Union; Pak Ho-Bom, member of the Korean Writers Union [names as published];

Republic of Cuba: Carlos Marti, vice president of the National Union of Cuban Writers and Artists (UNEAC); Miriam Artamendi, UNEAC secretary for international relations;

United Mexican States: Hector Morales Savinon, president of the Mexican Writers Union; Gloria Salas de Calderon, member of the leadership of the Mexican Writers Union;

Mongolian People's Republic: D. Zedew, chairman of the Mongolian Writers Union; N. Enchbajar, head of the International Relations Council of the Mongolian Writers Union [names as published];

Republic of Nicaragua: Noel Corea, member of the Sandinist Writers Association in the Association of Cultural Workers (ASTC); Fernando Silva, member of the Sandinist Writers Association in the ASTC;

Palestine: As'd al As'ad, president of the Palestine Writers Union in the Occupied Areas (West Bank and Gaza Strip); Ahmed Abdel Rahman, secretary general of the Palestine Writers and Journalists Association [names as published];

PPR: Jan Koprowski, member of the Presidium and chairman of the International Committee of the Union of Polish Writers;

SR of Romania: Constantin Toiu, vice chairman of the Romanian Writers Union; Paul Everac, member of the office of the Writers Union's leadership; Teofil Balas, head of the International Relations Department of the Romanian Writers Union;

Kingdom of Sweden: Karin Loefdahl, member of the leadership of the Swedish Writers Union; Margaretha Holmqvist, member of the Swedish Writers Union;

Swiss Conferation: Hugo Loetscher, president of the Swiss Writers Union; Otto Boeni, secretary of the Swiss Writers Union;

USSR: Robert Rozhdestvenskiy, secretary for international relations of the USSR Union of Writers; Vladimir Ognev, chairman of the Council for Socialist Countries' Literature in the USSR Union of Writers; Irina Gavrilova, correspondent at LITERATURNAYA GAZETA;

Syrian Arab Republic: Ali Okla Orsan, president of the Syrian Writers Union; Nasser Edine Baha, member of the Syrian Writers Union [names as published];

CSSR: Bohumil Nohejl, leading secretary of the Czech Writers Association and member of the Presidium of the CSSR Writers Association; Julius Lenko, member of the CSSR Writers Union;

Republic of Tunisia: Mohamed Laroussi Methoui, president of the Tunisian Writers Union; Tabai Souillah, member of the Tunisian Writers Union;

Hungarian People's Republic: Tibor Cseres, chairman of the Hungarian Writers Association; Mikos Veress, general secretary of the Hungarian Writers Association; Marton Kalasz, secretary for international relations of the Hungarian Writers Association;

Republic of Uruguay: Saul Ibargoyen, president of the Writers Association of Uruguay;

SRV: Chinh Huu, vice president of the Vietnamese Writers and Artists Association; Nguyen Quan Sang, member of the Presidium of the Vietnamese Writers and Artists Association.

Stoph Receives New Italian Ambassador

AU141333 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 10 Dec 87 p 6

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—On Wednesday [9 December] Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, received Dr Alberto Indelicato, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Italian Republic to the GDR, for a first visit.

Honecker Sends Appeal to PDRY

LD162105 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2020 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Text] Berlin, 16 Dec (ADN)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and GDR State Council Chairman, has, in view of the death sentences imposed in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen on 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and 34 of his supporters, sent the following telegram to 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Yemen Socialist Party Central Committee: "Guided by the ideas of humanity, peace, friendship, national harmony, and reconciliation, I appeal to you to refrain from carrying out the death sentences."

SED Central Committee Convenes 16 Dec

LD162043 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2000 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Text] Berlin, 18 Dec (ADN)—The SED Central Committee convened on 16 December 1987 in Berlin for its 5th meeting.

The report of the Politburo was presented by Comrade Werner Felfe, member of the Politburo and Secretary of the Central Committee.

Comrade Gerhard Schuerer, candidate member of the Politburo, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and chairman of the GDR State Planning Commission, read a report on the 1988 draft economic plan.

Nine comrades spoke in the debate. Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State, made the concluding speech.

The Central Committee adopted the Politburo report, the report on the 1988 draft economic plan, and the concluding speech.

The Central Committee approved the draft laws on the 1988 Economic Plan and the 1988 State Budget Plan and passed them to the People's Chamber for discussion and to be voted on.

Comrade Horst Heiser was appointed member of the Central Party Control Commission and Comrade Karweina was appointed candidate member of the Central Party Control Commission.

Honecker Addresses Session

LD170024 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2028 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Report on concluding speech by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State, at the fifth session of the SED Central Committee in Berlin on 16 December]

[Text] Berlin, 16 Dec (ADN)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State, said in his concluding speech to the fifth session of the SED Central Committee that this year witnessed the settlement of the most burning issue of our time—the safeguarding of peace—with results which encourage mankind and give grounds for renewed hopes.

The Soviet-U.S. treaty on eliminating medium- and shorter-range missiles—signed by Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan at their third summit—the prospect of a 50 percent reduction in strategic offensive weapons, the strengthening of the ABM Treaty, the drastic reduction in conventional weapons and armed forces and the elimination of assymetries by means of disarmament, especially in offensive weapons: All these open up prospects for a world free of nuclear weapons.

This also sets the direction for our continuing struggle to settle the main issue of our time: safeguarding world peace, replacing confrontation with cooperation.

In full agreement, the leading representatives of the Warsaw Pact states, at their meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev in Berlin on 11 December 1987, paid tribute to the historic significance of the first disarmament agreement and stressed that this first step must be followed by others. As set out in the joint peace program, for us it is a matter of a broad breakthrough that does not stop at limiting arms, both nuclear and conventional, but that leads to their dismantling, to more security through fewer weapons. The Soviet-U.S. treaty on liquidating medium- and shorter-range missiles proves that this can be achieved when reason and realism prevail, despite a variety of obstacles and resistance.

Because the treaty exists, the situation has changed. The more we press for the continuation of the disarmament process, the more promising are the conditions for further efforts for averting the danger to mankind of a nuclear inferno.

In the Soviet-U.S. joint statement it is again stressed that a nuclear war must never be unleashed and that in such a war there can be no victor. Consequently, striving for military supremacy is also ruled out. This awareness is and remains the iron law of responsible political action, which must not consign mankind to its destruction at the end of the 20th Century but must ensure a peaceful future for present and future generations. Security can only be achieved with one another and not against one another, and it must exist for all.

As is well known, the GDR has made no small contribution to getting rid of these diabolical things, which has now been agreed. Through its policy of dialogue and cooperation, through its own initiatives for reducing and dismantling arms, including those undertaken jointly with the CSSR, it is actively and constructively involved in placing peace on stable foundations, promoting trust and guiding the development of international relations along a better path.

We continue to assume that there is no acceptable alternative to peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems, and the consequence of this is that broadly based cooperation replaces confrontation.

This also applies to relations with the FRG. We are convinced that in this way the common European home can be built, a peaceful house of good-neighborliness between socialist and capitalist states, between countries of the Warsaw Pact and NATO, whose house rules are based on the realities that came about as a result of World War II and postwar developments: the inviolability of borders, respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, independence and equal rights, and noninterference in internal affairs; a house in which cooperation not confrontation between states with different social systems is the fundamental law of action of every country, every party, and every state leadership.

In saying all this, we of course do not lose sight of the fact that removing the medium-range nuclear missiles does not mean that those who do not entirely like the new direction have disappeared from the scene. We will reckon with attempts to balance disarmament measures in one area with an arms buildup in other areas and a return under flimsy pretexts to the catastrophic circle of constant prearming and counterarming. The one who has more, should disarm more. The one who has fewer arms should not add to his arms. There can be no other principle in order to remove asymmetries on this or that side.

We can only see how big this task is if we consider that irrespective of the progress made in disarmament, NATO is still striving for military superiority in accordance with the decisions of its last meeting. NATO's military doctrine, as also propounded by newly elected Secretary General Manfred Woerner, is aggressive and is based on views of military policy which still view war as a means for achieving political aims. Its main goal continues to be achieving decisive military-strategic superiority, irrespective of cost, in order to be able to force its will on the Warsaw Pact states.

In the nineties, new types of conventional weapons and munitions are to be deployed, the effect of which approximates that of tactical nuclear weapons. NATO's main

efforts are still directed toward preparing for a general nuclear war, and at the same time greater attention is being given to a conventional war, particularly in Europe. This end is served by a comprehensive arms buildup program until the end of the nineties which will entail a threefold growth in strategic attack forces, a twofold growth in ground forces, a twofold growth in air forces, and a threefold growth in naval forces.

All this is taking place amid a huge rumpus about the alleged danger of an "attack from the East," in spite of the fact that neither the Soviet Union nor the other Warsaw Pact states have any intention of attacking the FRG or another NATO country, in spite of the defense doctrine of the Warsaw Pact states affirmed in Berlin, and in spite of the growing number of voices in the world favoring disarmament and detente.

If you take what was achieved in 1987, then you can, in spite of contrary tendencies, say with good cause that mankind has come a little bit nearer to the goal of a secure and lasting peace. The tasks that the new year brings will be dealt with all the more confidence, particularly regarding the central issue of the disarmament process, the significant reduction of strategic offensive weapons. The greatest all-round vigilance is still required. The strengthening of socialism is and remains the most important thing. This was clearly stressed in the discussion of the Politburo report at our meeting.

The stable and dynamic development of the performance of our country is of great importance in this respect. On the other hand, we need a peaceful world for our development. Thus, there is a logical connection with the economic plan that was discussed at the meeting today.

The results of our party's economic policy, of the work of all GDR citizens, speak more loudly if we look at them in a broader context. Let us take the 1980's, when as is well known, the economic and social climate in many Western countries clearly worsened. In our country, from 1980 to 1987 (taking provisional figures for 1987), the produced national income rose from 193.6 billion to more than 261 billion marks. On average that is 4.4 percent more per annum. During this period 98 percent of the increase was obtained through the growth of labor productivity. The growth of national income was linked to an average annual drop in the consumption of economically important raw materials of 4.1 percent.

As befits the unity of economic and social policy, the growing achievements were accompanied by socio-political advances which deeply influenced everyday life in the GDR. In the 1980's alone, 1,418,570 apartments were handed over to the public. Living conditions therefore improved for nearly 4.3 million citizens. An increase of 29 percent in the net incomes of the population and of 21.8 percent in retail trade turnover is to be noted, whereby the sale of industrial commodities rose somewhat faster. This is reflected in the provision of technical consumer goods, which for example in the case of private cars increased from 36 per 100 households in 1980, to 50 in 1987. This figure increased from 16.8 to 46 in the case of color television sets, from 80.4 to 97 in washing machines, from 12.5 to 37 in freezers. A record of 99 per 100 households was already reached in 1980 in the supply of refrigerators.

We can justifiably say that our party's economic strategy, whose core is the unity of economic and social policy, has also proved itself under the conditions of this decade. That the decisions made 16 years ago to steadfastly advance along the path of intensification, to link economic performances to social policy, to place the welfare of the people and the close interrelationship between benefit to society and to the individual according to his performance at the center of all our domestic policy and thus to bring the ideals of socialism to fruition in everyday life, are correct is demonstrated today more than ever. It has been shown increasingly convincingly that in our socialist planned economy the mastery of the scientific-technical revolution is indissoluably linked with socially secure conditions and social progress. The efforts of the working people—and they were no mean efforts—have been worthwhile. In a word, we scored significant successes in the further shaping of an advanced socialist society in the 1980's. The decisions of the 11th congress are a foundation for our action, whereby we are aware that the 1988 plan is decisive for the implementation of the 1986-90 Five Year Plan.

The increase in our economic efficiency continued in 1987, which is demonstrated by the growth rates for production and labor productivity. There can be no talk of such a development in the major capitalist countries. On the contrary. The upheavals, the frantic activity on the stock exchanges, the worsening of the contradictions, as encapsulated by the phase the "burning Ruhr" in the FRG now—all this shows that behind the veil of so-called prosperity, eruptions which lead to an extreme intensification of the class struggle in these countries can sometimes appear overnight.

The value of our own achievements is seen all the more clearly against this background. We can assess the results in industry, agriculture, the construction industry, transport, and other economic areas as good. In this, not everything that has been stipulated was fully achieved. Questions concerning efficiency and unsatisfactory punctuality and contractual fulfillment in putting into operation some investments were already mentioned in this connection at the plenary session. Efforts must be intensified here. However, if the economic achievement of 1987 is taken as a whole, we can justifiably add it to our positive balance sheet. In contrast to earlier prophesies of doom by our opponents, we can convincingly maintain that proof was provided under our conditions on German soil that the communists are in a position to manage a modern economy.

The growth of industrial production between 1980 and 1987 of 35.7 percent contributed decisively to these positive developments. Labor productivity grew by 59.7 percent in this period on the basis of net production. Remarkable, too, is the performance increase in agriculture, where the overall yield in crop cultivation per hectare rose from 42.1 decitonnes of grain equivalent units in 1980 to 51 decitonnes of grain equivalent units in 1987. One important influence on this was the good grain harvests of recent years, which as we know lay regularly above 11 million tonnes. The scientific-technical potential of the GDR was systematically expanded in the 1980's and concentrated on the focal points in the fight for top performances. The means applied to science and technology grew from 7.1 billion marks in 1980 to 12 billion marks, and amount to over 4 percent of our national income.

The development and application of key technologies is coming increasing to the fore in our economy. Taking 1986 and 1987 together, for example, 80,000 office, personal and work station computers were produced. In 1986 there were 11,200 CAD/CAM stations in the national economy, and by the end of 1987 there will be over 43,000. At the same time, as we know, the transition to increasingly efficient generations of switching circuits and computers took place, which also thwarted the West's embargo policy.

This also attracts attention outside the borders of our republic. In one Western source you can read: "The East Germans are putting a 256 kilobyte writing and memory circuit into production." And it says that the West has put an embargo on the sale of these circuits to "East bloc countries," but that now there is a source behind the "Iron Curtain." It also says: "The VEB Carl Zeiss Jena in East Germany is producing 256 kilobyte writing and memory circuits in the modern CMOS technology. East Germany had these chips ready at the same time or earlier than most West European countries."

Attention is drawn to the 141-year-old history of the Zeiss Combine and its experience with optical equipment. The combine has successfully carried this over into chip lithographic engraving. It is now contemplating production of one to four megabyte memory circuits.

The 1988 plan requires that socialism's advantages be used even more effectively for mastering the scientific-technical revolution. The most important feature here is the further changing of the economic structure and processes through key modern technologies. To an increasingly greater extent, our economic development is based on their production and application. Our party rightly considers this as a new quality of growth. Naturally, here it is a case of a longer process, which penetrates right into the depths of our national economy. For final producers and suppliers this results in more demanding standards for the scientific-technical level of products and technologies and thus for management and planning and for all work at all levels.

Particularly when something new has to be mastered, we need an especially strong commitment in the party organizations; we need an atmosphere which spurs on everyone to bring his knowledge and ability to bear on the accomplishment of the tasks. That which is exemplary must be quickly recognized so that it can be disseminated. It is no less important to identify hindrances in time and to overcome them. It is part of the responsibility of every manager, indeed every member of our party, always to communicate to the working people a realistic and unvarnished picture of the state of things. Here there must be public recognition of that which deserves praise, and there will be words of criticism where criticism is due. This belongs to the healthy atmosphere for which our party is calling. A sober analysis of the position and awareness of our own responsibility form the basis on which the people's initiative and their spirit of competition develop best.

In our plan for next year we are to a high degree backing the creative abilities and the vigor of the GDR's working people, the vital working capital of our country. The further the key technologies advance in the most varied areas of the economy and reach hundreds of thousands of jobs, the more influence is gained by people's training, their readiness to undergo further training, indeed the whole attitude toward the quality of work and of the product. A product will prove itself a top product when at each stage of its production top quality work is put into it. In the tasks that lie ahead of us now the high level of education and the great experience in modern production, which the workers, the cooperative farmers, the members of the intelligentsia, and the other working people in our country have, again show themselves the best guarantee for the future. The art of management consists in fully tapping this potential.

Important areas of focus in the plan year ahead of us have been spoken about thoroughly in the Politburo report, in the paper given by Comrade Schuerer, and in the discussion. I would like in conclusion to pick out three fundamental questions:

First: The plan targets require that significant scientific and technological performances, in decisive sectors' top performances, are achieved and applied with significant economic benefit. This progress toward modern production must effect a rapid increase in labor productivity, result in tangibly increasing efficiency of our economy, and strengthen our positions in world markets.

Second, the concentrated and effective use of investment is of the greatest significance. In view of the requirements which we face in further strengthening our economy, we apply our means primarily for strengthening the material and technological basis of our economy. In the plan, therefore, the urgent aims of economic and overall social development have found their place. Some other things must presently take their place behind.

From the investment flows the decisive part of our growth in performance. Scientific and technological progress is indivisibly linked with this. From this derives the great responsibility which all involved bear for the completion of projects in line with the plan. This includes rapidly achieving the planned parameters of the new plants the economic effects.

Third, the increase in production will continue to go hand in hand with an improvement in the people's working and living conditions. The solving of the housing problem as a social problem by the year 1990 will be energetically continued in the new plan year. Personal incomes and the range of goods for sale must—and that is what the plan envisions—increase in a balanced relationship. I would like to stress the need to make the scientific and technological progress of our economy to a greater extent visible, in new, high value, well-made consumer goods, and in quantities which determine more than before the range offered by our domestic trade. In this we must not overlook the fact that both now and in the future there will be a demand for products, everyday things, which will be needed in the year 2000 and beyond, and that they must in no event fall victim to the renewal rate.

In 1987 the good development of our economy was successfully continued. We cannot yet draw a line beneath the balance, because that will happen in the working days and weeks that still remain this year. In 1988, based on strong economic growth, we will resolutely continue the unity of economic and social policy. We will continue to do everything for the well-being of the GDR people, for their peaceful future.

State Council Hears Erfurt Bezirk Report

AU071639 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 5-6 Dec 87 p 1

[Text] On Friday [4 December] the GDR State Council, under the direction of Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the State Council, met for a session in Berlin. It adopted a report from the Erfurt Bezirk Assembly on the experiences amassed in enhancing the contributions to the further implementation of the course of the unity of economic and social policy and of developing socialist democracy.

The report, which was explained by Bezirk Council Chairman Arthur Swatek, illustrates the creative work performed by the citizens of Erfurt Bezirk in order to further comprehensively implement the decisions of the 11th SED Congress. At the same time the report makes it clear once again, as was stressed by the State Council members in the talks, that the activity of the local people's representative bodies and their deputies greatly helps to create favorable territorial conditions for the further successful implementation of the policy of the main task and to increasingly use socialist democracy in a comprehensive manner as the driving force of economic and communal progress.

In his statement Erich Honecker emphasized that the multifaceted responsible collaboration of the citizens in the management of the state and economy constitutes a determinant characteristic of life under socialism. Therefore the principle "all for the people, all with the people, and all through the people" is and remains the daily command for action for every representative of the people, constitutes living socialist democracy, and is indispensable for the further fashioning of the developed socialist democracy.

According to Erich Honecker's words the experiences of Erfurt confirm: A comprehensively developed and successfully implemented socialist democracy is a motor of economic and communal progress in both, the enterprises and towns. "We make the most rapid progress," the chairman of the GDR State Council pointed out, "where the proposals and critical observations of the deputies and citizens influence state decisions and where their implementation is put swiftly into practice with all social forces. It is necessary to more emphatically promote the direct cooperation in the solving of common tasks, to support their progressive initiatives, and to clarify their questions and concerns rapidly and convincingly. Here criticism and self-criticism continue to be indispensable for the elimination of shortcomings in the further shaping of the developed socialist society."

Successful local policy, Erich Honecker continued, is based on fulfilling plans. It is the foundation for the continuation of our social policy. This is why the people's representative bodies and deputies are called upon to see that there is a conscientious day-to-day plan fulfillment and to tap all resources for the realization of the economic strategy. This includes the utilization of local conditions for the accelerated application of key technologies and well-thought-out local rationalization, as well as an efficient local building sector and the development of services for the population that take needs into account. It is and will remain a firm principle of our activity that increasing productivity must always go hand-in-hand with the raising of the people's material and cultural living standard. In all sectors it is not just a case of individual top achievements, but a matter of applying and achieving the best results on a broad scale.

The State Council approved the report of the Erfurt Bezirk Assembly and decided to convey it to the Berlin city assemblies, and to the bezirk and kreis assemblies for evaluation in their activities.

The State Council also decided on its work plan for the first half of 1988.

Eberlein Receives Lower Saxony Delegation
LD122222 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1210 GMT 12 Dec 87

[Excerpt] Magdeburg, 12 Dec (ADN)—A delegation of workers and trade unionists from Lower Saxony (FRG), which is staying in the Magdeburg Bezirk, had a meeting on Saturday with Werner Eberlein, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the SED Bezirk Executive. Opinions were exchanged on international questions, in particular the treaty between the USSR And the United States on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles. Werner Eberlein described the document as the result of responsibility and realism and of many years work by all peace forces.

He explained to the guests, including members of the DKP and the SPD, the principle practised in the GDR of the unity of economic and social policy, which finds its expression in particular in the home-building program. In the Magdeburg Bezirk every other citizen today lives in a home built or modernized since 1971. [passage omitted]

Eberlein on Magdeburg Harvest Yield
AU161648 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 14 Dec 87 p 3

[Article by Werner Eberlein, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Magdeburg SED Bezirk leadership: "On the Path of the 11th SED Congress; With This Year's Good Harvest Experiences to a High 1988 Yield"]

[Excerpts] Now that the harvest of all crops has been completed, Magdeburg Bezirk can draw up the following balance sheet: Cooperative peasants and workers have achieved the highests ever results. The achievements of the working people in agriculture as well as of their partners in the enterprises of agricultural technology and grain cultivation and the agrochemical centers are to be particularly appreciated because of this year's complicated weather conditions. Extremely bad weather prevailed particularly during harvest time. The agricultural producer cooperatives and state farms harvested 49.1 decitonnes of grain per hectar and overfulfilled the competition targets by 1 decitonne. They harvested 279 decitonnes of potatoes per hectar—79.2 decitonnes more than in 1986—and 358.5 decitonnes of sugar beet, 13.8 decitonnes more than last year.

Challenge To Open Reserves Everywhere [subhead]

Being the Republic's largest agricultural producer, our bezirk fulfilled its responsibility for the high level of food supply and for the supply of the industry with raw materials to an even larger extent. These results are again proof of the mobilizing effect of our party's tested economic strategy in the sphere of agricultural policy. It is a strategy that requires creative actions and calls upon everybody to open up still existing reserves in a lasting manner to bring about an increase in economic performance. During the work carried out in the fall, the peasants and workers also did their best. Thus they created the preconditions for high yields in 1988. Experiences that were gained in the past few months by our bezirk party organization are now being put into practice. What were the most efficient measures with regard to political leadership? What methods and forms of ideological work have proven themselves, and what can be improved?

One of the most important experiences is that the best results have been achieved where the harvest was turned into a matter of concern for the entire region. Particularly on weekends, thousands of helpers assisted the peasants in the fields, during the transport, and in the grains silos. The people's representative bodies and councils, for example, supported by the kreis leaderships, organized additional help and saw to it that the institutions taking care of the children and the shops extended their operating hours. In this way the peasants felt the support of the workers class and of the entire society in further fulfilling their special tasks following the 11th SED Congress. [passage omitted]

Progress in the Application of Modern Technologies [subhead]

Numerous enterprises and collectives are cooperating with scientific institutions for the mutual benefit of both sides. The Querstedt and Lindau cultural producer cooperatives, for example, cooperate with the Guelzow/Guestrow Grain Research Center and the Nossen Central Institute for Strain Research, Magdeburg work group, and the Schwaneberg state farm collaborates with the Hadmersleben Grain Research Institute. The scientists inform the cooperatives of new strains and optimum sowing dates, and give sowing instructions. They assist the peasants in exact soil testing with their special devices. Sometimes also cadres with concrete assignments are exchanged. Joint party meetings are held. In a similar way peasants cultivating sugar beet cooperate with the Klein Wanzleben Sugar Beet Research Institute, and cattle breeders collaborate with the Iden-Rohrbeck Institute for Cattle Breeding.

Close cooperation between practice and science—another valuable experience that has been gained—has contributed to a revolutionary development in our bezirk's agriculture in the application of modern workplace-related key technologies. Microelectronics has already been installed in more than 50 cooperatives. By 1990 each cooperative should have at least one office computer. [passage omitted]

Facts and Figures [subhead]

—Some 15.2 percent of the GDR's grain, 21.7 percent of sugar beet, 10.3 percent of potatoes, 13.8 percent of vegetables, and 11.3 percent of slaughter animals are produced in the agricultural enterprises of the Magdeburg Bezirk.

—A total of 521 agricultural producer cooperatives and state farms collaborate in 149 livestock and plant production cooperatives, comprising 90,754 peasants and agricultural workers.

—The bezirk's Peasant Mutual Aid Association includes 68,200 members.

—More than 2,600 communal contracts have been concluded this year between agricultural enterprises and local people's representative bodies. According to these agreements nearly M175 million are used for the further improvement of the working and living conditions in the agricultural sphere.

—Since the beginning of the year 13,378 connections with the drinking water network and 10,405 connections with the central sewage system have been established.

Leaders' Public Appearances

18-24 November

AU282155 [Editorial report] East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German from 19-25 November reports the following public appearances of GDR leaders (date of publication in parentheses):

Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, gave a luncheon in honor of Alvaro Cunhal, general secretary of the Portuguese Communist Party in East Berlin on 23 November, which was attended by the members and candidate members of the SED Central Committee Politburo Horst Sindermann, Hermann Axen, Joachim Herrmann, Werner Jarowinsky, Guenther Kleiber, Egon Krenz, Erich Mueckenberger, Harry Tisch, and Inge Lange (24 November, p 1).

Willi Stoph, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, visited the VEB Light Metal Construction Combine in Niesky on 23 November (24 November, p 2)

Horst Dohlus, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, and Werner Walde, candidate member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Cottbus Bezirk Leadership, attended a conference of the party group organizers of the "Erich Selbmann" Schwarzpumpe Combine in Hoyerswerda on 23 November (24 November, p 2).

Hermann Axen, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, welcomed Alvaro Cunhal, general secretary of the Portuguese Communist Party, in East Berlin on 22 November (23 November, p 1).

Werner Eberlein, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Magdeburg Bezirk Leadership, attended a youth seminar for disarmament and peace in Magdeburg on the weekend of 21-22 November (23 November, pp 1-2).

Kurt Hager, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, attended a meeting of GDR graduates from Soviet universities and colleges in East Berlin on 23 November (24 November, p 2).

Army General Heinz Kessler, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and minister of national defense, received a delegation of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of the Republic of Cuba, headed by Cuban Deputy Defense Minister Brigadier General Irving Ruiz Brito in East Berlin on 19 November (20 November, p 2).

Guenther Kleiber, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, received Margarita da Souza, head of the Economic Policy Department of the Central Committee of the Mozambique Liberation Front in East Berlin on 20 November (21-22 November, p 2).

Inge Lange, candidate member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, received a delegation of the USSR Women's Committee, headed by deputy chairwoman Galina Galkina, in East Berlin on 20 November (21-22 November, p 2).

Horst Sindermann, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, deputy chairman of the GDR State Council, and president of the GDR People's Chamber, headed a work group to discuss agricultural results in Delitzsch, which began its 2-day work on 18 November (19 November, p 2; 20 November, pp 1-2).

Harry Tisch, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the FDGB Federal Executive Committee, presented awards to workers and engineers for outstanding innovative achievements in East Berlin on 18 November (19 November, p 2).

25 November-2 December

AU041231 [Editorial Report] East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German from 26 November to 3 December reports the following public appearances of GDR leaders (date of publication in parentheses):

Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, received Pak Yong Chan, DPRK ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, to the GDR in East Berlin on 27 November (28-29 November, p 1).

Hans-Joachim Boehme, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, received a delegation of the Finnish Communist Party (Unity) headed by Deputy Chairman Yro Hakanen in East Berlin; date not given (28-29 November, p 5).

Horst Dohlus, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, attended a reception given by 'Isam Kamil Salim, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the PLO in the GDR, in East Berlin on 26 November (27 November, p 2).

Kurt Hager, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, received a Japanese cultural delegation headed by composer Ikuma Dan in East Berlin on 26 November (27 November, p 2). Kurt Hager also received Aleksander Krawczuk, PPR minister of culture and art, in East Berlin on 2 December (3 December, p 2).

Army General Heinz Kessler, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and minister of national defense, awarded the Friedrich Engels Prize to 15 collectives in East Berlin on 27 November (28-29 Nov, p 1). Heinz Kessler also honored Border Troop companies in East Berlin; date not given (30 November, p 2).

Egon Krenz, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, addressed a workers militia conference in East Berlin on 28 November (30 November, p 2).

Werner Krolikowski, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, attended a reception given by Milan Predojevic, SFRY ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, in East Berlin on 27 November (28-29 November, p 2).

Erich Mueckenberger, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, attended a reception given by 'Ali Isma 'il Sayf, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, in East Berlin on 27 November (28-29 November, p 2). Erich Mueckenberger also attended a reception given by Vanheuang Vongvichit, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, in East Berlin on 2 December (3 December, p 2).

Alfred Neumann, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, attended a reception given by Ilir Bocka, charge d'affaires ad interim of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, in East Berlin on 26 November (27 November, p 2).

Harry Tisch, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the FDGB National Executive Council, chaired a meeting of the Secretariats of the FDGB and of the Society for Sports and Technology in Potsdam on 25 November (26 November, p 2). Harry Tisch also addressed trade unionists in Kleinmachow in East Berlin on 27 November (28-29 November, p 2).

3-8 December

AU111329 [Editorial Report] East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German from 4 to 9 December reports the following public appearances of GDR leaders (date of publication in parentheses):

Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, held a speech at a session of the GDR State Council in Berlin on 4 December (5-6 December, p 1).

Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, accompanied Branko Mikulic, chairman of the SFRY Federal Executive Council, during his visit to the "7 October" Machine Tool Combine in Berlin and attended the farewell ceremony at Berlin-Schoenefeld Airport together with Alfred Neumann and Werner Krolikowski, members of the SED Central Committee Politburo, on 8 December (9 December, p 2).

Harry Tisch, member of the SED Central Committe Politburo, and Gerhard Schuerer, candidate member of the SED Central Committe Politburo, addressed a FDGB Presidium meeting in Berlin on 4 December (5-6 December, p 2).

Werner Krolikowski and Alfred Neumann, members of the SED Central Committee Politburo, welcomed Branko Mikulic, chairman of the SFRY Federal Executive Council, at Berlin-Schoenefeld Airport on 7 December (8 December, p 3).

Werner Eberlein, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, addressed party veterans in Magdeburg on 4 December (5-6 December, p 6).

Kurt Hager, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, visited the "Konrad Wolf" Film and Television Specialists College in Berlin on 7 December (8 December, p 2).

Werner Jarowinski, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, was received by Arto Tanner, Finnish ambassador to the GDR, in Berlin on 7 December (8 December, p 2).

Army General Heinz Kessler, GDR minister of national defense and member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, visited the Air Force/Air Defense Institute for Aeromedicine in Berlin on 7 December (8 December, p 2).

Guenter Mittag, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, addressed the GDR Chamber of Technology congress in Berlin on 4 December (5-6 December, p 5).

Werner Walde, candidate member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, held discussion with building trade party activists in Cottbus on 3 December (4 December, p 3).

National Assembly Adopts Ministerial Shuffle

Grosz Addresses Closed Session

LD162308 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1700 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Text] [Announcer] We now continue with our detailed report on the winter session of the National Assembly:

[Unidentified reporter] The representatives first decided the agenda. They decided to hear a report by [Premier] Karoly Grosz on the draft law on the enumeration of ministries, then they will debate the draft law on next year's budget and state financial matters. After this, the draft law on legislation and the settling of legal rules before 1960 will be put before the session. Then the State Office for Church Affairs will give a report on its work and on the state policy on churches. This is followed by interpellations and questions. First of all, Karoly Grosz submitted the draft law on the enumeration of ministries.

Mr Premier, your speech follows now, but it will be our voice because the National Assembly held a closed session, and therefore we cannot hear it in your voice. I fear that many of our listeners will think this strange or will not understand it.

[Grosz] Well, it may be that people will not understand this phenomenon, but there is nothing to be surprised at. According to the standing orders of the Hungarian Parliament, the president of the National Assembly can order a closed session if the Council of Ministers asks for a closed session with a collective decision, or the Presidential Council asks for it with a collective decision. If neither the Council of Ministers nor the Presidential Council asks for a closed session then the Parliament can decide, can vote for the proposal of the president that there should be a closed session. This is what happened this time. Neither the Council of Ministers nor the Presidential Council asked for a closed session. However, the president of the National Assembly proposed to Parliament that there should be a closed session. They voted on this, and accepted it with a majority of votes. The reason for this was that it was a question of internal matters, personnel matters, in which, obviously, if only the members of Parliament are present, then there is a more intimate exchange of opinions and debate, and thus the decision is also more objective. For my part, naturally I accepted this, as I must accept it; I have no right to change it. And I would like to add that the government must respect this wish of the National Assembly.

The fact that the report is not in my voice, but that of the radio reporters is not a disadvantage to me, but rather an advantage, for your voices are nicer than mine, and you also speak Hungarian more beautifully than I do. So this does not worry me.

[Reporter] Now follows the speech by Karoly Grosz at the closed session:

The majority of people in Hungary support the government program put forward in the fall. At the same time, there are those who continue to be able to formulate only their reservations, and repeat the questions of responsibility and the guarantees of resurgence.

With the increase of difficulties, the activities of hostile elements and of the opposition have grown. The government will strive in the future also for a dialogue with everyone who, even in a differing way but in the interests of socialist resurgence, is looking for possibilities for solutions.

However, we are not prepared to talk with those who with a conscious intent to damage, are trying to denigrate our aims and the efforts directed toward their realization, from an oppositionist platform.

The premier, speaking about the reasons for the changes in the government and personnel changes, said that the efficiency of government work does not meet the requirements. There is hastiness, there was always time problems, the preparatory work in significant questions is slow and long, and furthermore, the profound analysis of the real processes is lacking.

They hope that the organizational measures and the personnel changes connected with them will increase the role of the state in organizing the economy, but in a more indirect way. It is an important demand that in the future, the government be more open to the new phenomenon of social development, and that socialist democracy and social supervision over state organs should strengthen.

The premier also said that the accumulated tensions can only be eliminated at best over years, with joint work. Because of all this, the particular combination of hope and doubt will be an integral part of our general feeling. Thus, the government considers it to be one of its constant tasks to deal with this using the tools of politics. But, for this, debates are needed and this must be considered a natural element, but openness must not be confused with irresponsible accusations, because the country needs confidence and unity of action.

The premier emphasized that the new phase in the dialogue now unfolding between the Soviet Union and the United States opens encouraging perspectives for our international relations and cooperation. We can say without exaggeration that the historic summit meeting makes possible international cooperation in which not hostility, not discrimination in economic relations, but cooperation resting on mutual interests is characteristic.

The government, in its international activity, considers its most important task to be the securing of external conditions for the stabilization and resurgence program. In recent high-level meetings, our partners assured us that they agree with us and support our reform plans.

We have had talks of varying significance with the leaders of the Soviet Union, about the content and framework of cooperation in the future, the premier emphasized. We experienced the maximum of understanding, readiness to help, and intention to work together in every topic.

We have an important interest in settling relations between the EEC and Hungary. Talks are underway on the first comprehensive agreement between the West European economic grouping and hungary. We would like to conclude these successfully in a foreseeable time.

Following this, in the name of the government, the premier submitted a draft law for a new order in the organization of the Council of Ministers and the ministries. He emphasized that the planned organizational measures and the personnel changes connected with this, are the first phase in a process. Now they have submitted proposals for only those personnel changes which, the premier said, are connected with organizational modernization. Other measures which are considered necessary will be prepared in 1988, and we wish to introduce these on 1 January 1989.

In the further development of government work, our starting point is that as well as quick reactions and the maintenance of fundamental directions, sometimes it is also needed to make decisions born of necessity. However, this is unthinkable without changing the government's work style, changing the system of decision making, and making responsibility relations easier to survey.

The proposals are directed toward harmonizing the strengthening of the corporate character of the Council of Ministers with the growth of ministerial independence and responsibility. In this spirit, we examined the functions of the deputy premiers and of the government committees.

The ministers and the state secretaries who direct bodies which have a national sphere of influence, will in the future be connected directly to the Council of Ministers. They will be responsible to the government and to the National Assembly for their work. This makes it possible to reduce the number of the deputy premier functions and to eliminate the official apparatus wedged between the government and the ministries.

For this reason, the government is terminating three economic government committees and at the same time, is creating the Planning and Economic Committee. It proposes the creation of a Ministry of Commerce by amalgamating the Ministry of Domestic Trade and the Ministry of Foreign Trade, terminating the independent sphere of influence of the International Economic Relations Secretariat, and significantly modifying the sphere of influence of the National Material and Price Office. This latter organization will continue to operate as the National Price Office.

The government proposes the creation of a Social and Health Ministry, for state direction of social policy is at present fragmented.

The government wishes to set up the Environmental Protection and Water Management as a new ministry.

Premier Karoly Grosz said that the significance of the proposed modifications is indifated by the fact that there have been no changes of such an extent since 1967. The proposed changes must be implemented by 31 March of next year.

The government's work style is also gradually adjusting to the new requirements. The Cabinet wishes to rely more on the experiences of the National Assembly and in the future considers it even more its responsibility than at present to have continuous dialogue with various levels of society, Karoly Grosz emphasized in his speech to the National Assembly.

Karoly Grosz's report was followed by other contributions, then the representatives debated the personnel proposals submitted in writing by the MSZMP Central Committee and the Patriotic People's Front Presidium, connected with the reorganization of the government, and they voted on those proposed by name.

Sarlos Announces Government Changes

LD161549 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1130 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Speech by Istvan Sarlos at the Hungarian National Assembly's winter session at the parliament hall on 16 December—live]

[Text] We are discussing at open sessions the next points on the agenda. I therefore announce that Parliament, the National Assembly, has made decisions at its closed session on orgnazational and personnel changes. On the basis of the prime minister's submission, it has modified the bill on the listing of ministries in the following manner:

Instead of five deputy prime ministers, in the future the government will have two deputy prime ministers, but even they will not be in charge of particular portfolios.

Second: It has established, by merging the duties of the ministries of Domestic and Foreign Trade and the National Materials and Prices Office, the independent Trade Ministry. From the previous State Secretariates of the Natural and Environmental Protection Office and the Water Management Office, we have established the

Ministry of the Environment and Water Management, and, by extending its duties, we have established the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs.

In its independent decision, the government has abolished the Councils Affairs Office and the Information Office, and has redirected their tasks to the Ministry of the Interior and directly to the Council of Ministers.

On the basis of a submission by the Council of Ministers and the Presidential Council, the National Assembly also has decided on personnel matters in the following manner: It has relieved Frigyes Berecz, Judit Csehak, Istvan Horvath, and Laszlo Marothy from their duties as deputy prime ministers, and has entrusted them with other tasks which are to be published later.

It has relieved Minister of Domestic Trade Zoltan Juhar of his duties due to another important assignment. It has relieved Minister of the Interior Janos Kamara, owing to his retirement. Minister of the Industry Laszlo Kapolyi has received another important assignment. Finance Minister Peter Medgyessy and Health Minister Laszlo Medve are being relieved due to another important assignment. Minister of Foreign Trade Peter Veress is being relieved, owing to his retirement.

The National Assembly has elected Deputy Premier Jozsef Marjai, minister of trade. He remains deputy premier, as well. It elected Peter Medgyessy, deputy premier and leader of the Planning and Economic Committee under the government. Frigyes Berecz as Minister of Industry Judit Csehak was entrusted with the Ministry of Social and Health Affairs. Janos Hoos was elected chairman of the National Planning Office, with ministerial rank. Istvan Horvath was elected as minister of internal affairs, Laszlo Marothy as minister for the protection of the environment and water management, and Miklos Villanyi as minister of finance. The new ministers have taken up their posts.

MTI Reports on New Ministers

LD161456 Budapest MTI in English
1415 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Text] Budapest, December 16 (MTI)—The winter session of Parliament opened in Budapest, on Wednesday. The deputies discussed in a closed session the bill on the enumeration of the ministries of the Hungarian People's Republic. The personnel changes were given reasons by Karoly Grosz, chairman of the Council of Ministers. In the closed session the parliament made decisions on personnel affairs.

Subsequently the winter session of Parliament continued with plenary sessions. Present at the chamber were Karoly Nemeth, president of the Presidential Council, Janos Kadar, general secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Worlers' Party, Karoly Grosz, chairman of the Council of Ministers. The session was attended by other members of the Political Committee, the president of the Central Control Committee, the secretaries of the Central Committee, and members of the Presidential Council and of the government. Representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited to Hungary were also in attendance.

The decisions of the closed session were made known by Istvan Sarlos, president of the parliament.

The legislative body has approved the bill on the enumeration of ministries. To establish a uniform management for market processes, and the foreign and internal trade, the Parliament has adopted a decision on the setting up of the ministry of trade, which brings about the dissolution of the ministries of foreign and of internal trade.

The setting up of the ministry of environmental protection and water management was necessitated by the growing importance of environmental protection and the demand for the unified state control of the related activities. This decision brings about the dissolution of the national office of environmental protection and nature conservation, and the national water authority.

The approval of the establishment of the Ministry of Social Welfare and health makes possible a more effective social policy under uniform management, uniting the tasks that earlier have belonged to several bodies of national competence.

Adopting the dissolution of the councils' office and the information office of the council of ministers, and the change in the supervising authority of the National Chief Directorate of Social Security, Parliament made a decision on the amendment of the 1971 Law on the Local Councils, the 1986 Law on the Press, and the related provisions of the law decrees on the organization and the management of social security.

In accord with the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and the presidium of the National Council of the Patriotic People' Front, the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic forwarded proposals for personnel changes. Adopting the proposals the legislative body has relieved Frigyes Berecz, Judit Csehak, Istvan Horvath and Laszlo Marothy also from the post of the president of the National Planning Office. At the same time it elected Frigyes Berecz as minister of industry, Judit Csehak as minister of social welfare and health, Istvan Horvath as minister of interior, Jozsef Marjai, with the retention his post as deputy prime minister, as minister of trade, and Laszlo Marothy as minister of environmental protection and water management.

With the recognition of their merits and due to their other important tasks the Parliament relieved Ministers Zoltan Juhar of internal trade, Laszlo Kapolyi of industry, Laszlo Medve of health and Peter Medgyessy of finance, who was elected as deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers.

With the recognition of his merits and due to their retirement, the Parliament relieved Janos Kamara, minister of interior and Peter Veress, minister of foreign trade.

Janos Hoos was elected as president of the National Planning Office, with ministerial status, and Miklos Villanyi as minister of finance.

At the Nandorfehervar Hall of the Parliament Jozsef Marjai, Peter Medgyessy, Frigyes Berecz, Judit Czehak, Janos Hoos, Istvan Horvath, Laszlo Marothy and Miklos Villany took the oath of office.

Jozsef Marjai [subhead]

Jozsef Marjai, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of trade, was born in Budapest in 1923.

From 1948 he worked at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and in the diplomatic corps he served abroad several times. Then he stood at the head of various departments of the ministry. Subsequently he was ambassador in Switzerland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia. He was appointed as deputy foreign minister in 1970 and as state secretary in 1973. He was the ambassador of Hungary to the Soviet Union from 1976. Since 1978 he has been deputy prime minister.

He has been participating in the workers' movement since 1939. In 1976 he was elected member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party.

Janos Hoos

Janos Hoos, president of the National Planning Office, was born in Szombathely in 1938.

He graduated from the Karl Marx University of Economics in 1960, where he worked as demonstrator and then assistant lecturer. He conducted wide-ranging theoretical research in national economic planning and obtained a doctorate in economics.

Member of the party since 1960. 1968-1980 staff member of the Central Committee, deputy head of department and then head of department. In 1980 he was elected member of the Central Committee of the HSWP.

Since 1980 he has been the state secretary of the National Planning Office.

Istvan Horvath

Dr Istvan Horvath, minister of interior, was born in 1935 in Paks. He graduated from the Lorand Eotvos University of Arts and Sciences.

He worked as a judge in Kecskemet from 1957. He has been member of the party 1956. From 1959 he was the staff member, head of department and then secretary of the Bacs-Kiskun County Committee of the party. He was elected first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Youth Union of Hungary in 1970.

From 1973 he was first secretary of the Bacs-Kiskun County Party Committee of the HSWP. In 1985 he was elected secretary of the Central Committee of the HSWP. Deputy prime minister from June, 1987, he has been a member of the Central Committee of the HSWP since 1970.

Laszlo Marothy

Dr Laszlo Marothy, minister of environmental protection and water management, was born in Szeghalom on 1942.

He graduated from the Godollo University of Agricultural Sciences, and obtained a doctorate. From 1968 to 1970 he was secretary of the Pest County Committee of the Communist Youth Union of Hungary and then head of department at the Godollo University of Agricultural Sciences. Member of the party since 1965.

Elected first secretary of the Szentendre City Committee of the HSWP in 1970, then first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Youth Union of Hungary. From 1980 first secretary of the Budapest Party council. Elected deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers in 1984. Member of the Central Committee of the HSWP since 1973 and of the Council of Ministers since March, 1975.

Miklos Villanyi

Dr Miklos Villanyi, minister of finance, was born in Gyurus in 1931.

He graduated from the Karl Marx University of Economics in 1953. Subsequently he conducted research in economics and finance as an aspirant of the Hungarian Academy of Science.

From 1955 he was the staff member of the Ministry of Finance, head of department, and deputy minister. He was the state secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food from 1982. He has been member of the party since 1953.

The Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic and the government have made decisions in personnel affairs in their own competence.

The Presidential Council Relieved:

Miklos Andriko, state secretary of the Ministry of Internal Trade, from his post

State Secretary Abraham Kalman from his post

State Secretary Rezso Banyasz from his post, with recognition of his merits

Imre Hutas, state secretary of the Ministry of Health, from his post, with recognition of his merits and due to his retirement

Janos Hoos, state secretary of the State Planning Office, from his post

State Secretary Antal Kovacs from his post, with the recognition of his merits and due to his retirement

State Secretary Lajos Papp from his post with recognition of his merits and due to his retirement

Istvan Torok, state secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, from his post

Miklos Villanyi, state secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, from his post.

At the same time the Presidential Council elected:

Miklos Andriko as state secretary of the Ministry of Trade

Kalman Abraham as state secretary of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Water Management

Ferenc Bartha as state secretary of the Ministry of Trade

Erno Kemenes as state secretary of the National Planning Office

Laszlo Medve as state secretary of the Ministry of Social Welfare and Health Istvan Torok as state secretary of the Ministry of Trade. The Council of Ministers has relieved Kalman Abraham, president of the National Office of Environmental Protection and Nature Conservation, with recognition of his merits.

Rezso Banyasz, president of the Information Office of the Council of Ministers, with recognition of his merits

Antal Kovacs, president of the National Water Authority, from his post, with the recognition of his merits due to his retirement

Lajos Papp, president of the Office of Councils of the Council of Ministers, from his post, with recognition of his merits due to his retirement

Deputy Minister Ferenc Bartha from his post, due to other important commitment

The Council of Ministers has elected Zoltan Pal as deputy ministry of interior.

The Council of Ministers has elected Laszlo Kapolyi as government commissioner in charge of the coordination of the restructuring programme of coal mining. For the period running to March 31st, 1988, to assist the continuence of work, and to participate in the elaboration of the scope, structure, procedural and other internal provisions of the new organizations, the Council of Ministers has elected:

Zoltan Juhar and Peter Veress, with the direction of the minister of trade,

Lajos Papp, with the direction of the minister of interior,

Antal Kovacs, with the direction of the minister of environmental protection and water management,

Rezso Banyasz, with the direction of the chairman of the Council of Ministers.

The Parliament made a decision on the order of the topics of its agenda:

Debates of the bills on the 1988 central budget of the Hungarian people's Republic and on the amendment of the 2nd law of 1979 on finances.

Of the bill on legislation and on the settlement of statutory provisions issued before 1960.

Of the report of the president of the State Office of Church Affairs on the church policy of the state and the work of the office

The stance of the parliament, under the proposal of the Foreign Affairs committee, on the Soviet-U.S. summit

Interpellation, questions, the election of new committees. According to the agenda Peter Medgyessy, deputy premier submitted his report.

Marjai Addresses Assembly

LD162218 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1700 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Report by unidentified reporter on speech by Hungarian Deputy Premier Joszef Marjai at the National Assembly session in Budapest on 16 December]

[Text] [Reporter] Deputy Premier Jozsef Marjai, the new minister of trade, spoke at the national assembly session today on behalf of the [MSZMP] Central Committee and of the government. Analyzing the situation of our country as regards the balance of trade, he spoke among other things about our trade with the CEMA countries.

[Begin Marjai recording] Socialist integration, and above all our cooperation with the Soviet Union, is our natural environment and the basis of all our activities of this nature. Economic management at home must facilitate a

process whereby our cooperation with the socialist countries will strengthen the favorable domestic economic processes and contribute to the realization of our goals as regards structural transformations and the reduction of inputs. We have developed the regulators for next year in line with this consideration. In contrast to the two previous 5-year plan periods, on the basis of the price formation which is valid within the CEMA framework, in ruble accounting trade the terms of trade are now changing in our favor. In this situation it is indispensible for the maintenance of the balance of payments to make quantitative changes in mutual deliveries. We shall have to reach an agreement with our partners on this.

Since our export possibilities are determined by our imports, in the situation which has developed there is no possibility for expanding our exports accounted in rubles in 1988.

In order to ensure a balance, what is required first and foremost is that the state organs, the foreign trade apparatus, and the enterprises should work in a purposeful way, without losing any time, and with great flexibility in the interest of increasing the import of products necessary for us. [end recording]

[Reporter] As regards our participation in the capitalist markets, Jozsef Marjai urged the creation of equal commercial conditions.

[Begin Marjai recording] It is an important endeavor of ours in the capitalist world that we should stabilize and expand our economic relations with our most important partners. We are negotiating with the EEC concerning a comprehensive agreement on commercial and economic cooperation, which would settle the whole of our relations with the Common Market, which would put an end to disputed questions, and which would open up many-sided opportunities for mutually advantageous cooperation.

We regard it as a key question that the EEC should also accept Hungary as an equal participant in international relations, just as all our other economic partners and the international economic organs are doing, on the basis of our existing international rights and obligations. [end recording]

[Reporter] Despite everything that has just been said, our export conditions have improved. Jozsef Marjai said at the same time, however, speaking about the internal equilibrium, that there is not sufficient harmony between the supply of money and the demand for money.

[Begin Marjai recording] Although measures have been taken by the banks to improve the equilibrium of the domestic financial market, their effects cannot yet be regarded as satisfactory. The considerable liquidity weakens the pressure to perform and endangers our intention that among the more rigorous conditions the enterprises should flourish primarily by improving their performance instead of trying to evade them by raising their prices. It is the determined effort of the government that, with a strict budgetary, subsidy, and credit policy, it will, on one hand prevent economic organizations from receiving money without the appropriate performance, and on the other hand it will enable the enterprises to utilize the revenues acquired with successful work more freely than up to now.

Increasing rigor and independence are not mutually exclusive concepts but, in this case, elements which assume and supplement each other. It is only with this approach that we can ensure that the financially-based equilibrium of the plan should not be disrupted by various processes during the year, and that our foremost goals, that is, curbing the increase of debts and simultaneously improving the external and internal equilibrium and market conditions, should not be achieved at the expense of each other. [end recording]

[Reporter] The major part of the reform that has begun has still to be implemented. The following are just the most important of the planned changes: [Begin Marjai recording] The reform of planning is a great and demanding task, as are the implementations and preparations for the introduction of such significant reform measures serving the modernization of the economic system as, for example, the wages reform connected with the tax system and the development of market conditions, the transformation of the housing management system, the new pensions system, and the reform of social insurance. There is a need for a new work-force policy which will underpin the structural transformation from the aspect of employment policy as well, and which facilitates the finding of employment for those who are in a difficult situation as a result of the economic changes and the elimination of loss-making activities.

One of the important means to this end is a system of retraining which is more in line with the needs of the economy, the labor exchange network which facilitates changes of employment, and, in general, improvements in the conditions of the movement of labor. There is a budgetary basis available for this which must be utilized sensibly, purposefully, and with great circumspection. [end recording]

Gaspar Addresses Assembly

LD162017 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1700 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Report by unidentified reporter on speech by Sandor Gaspar, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the SZOT, at Hungarian National Assembly session in Budapest on 16 December]

[Text] [Reporter] Sandor Gaspar, chairman of SZOT, asked and obtained permission to address the National Assembly session. He began his contribution as follows:

[Begin Gaspar recording] The trade unions propose that the 1988 economic plan be adopted and they will assist its realization. We support those who want economical production and who want to end the troubles in our development and our management. Nowadays the trade unions are often criticized by those who are concerned and also by those who are not concerned. So that there should be no misunderstanding, by those concerned we mean the membership. And the membership has a sense of something missing, because of the weakness of interest representation; and in many cases this is justified and natural.

Unfortunately, if the national income does not grow, then interest representation goes through hard times. With more efforts it can show fewer results. At such times we must weigh up in a more deliberate way our opinions, our proposals, and our conceptions too. At such a time we could easily turn into people who nod assent to everything or who say no to everything.

If the trade unions perform their interst representation activity well, then they also defend socialist power. They prevent the break-up of common agreement, they reveal new obstacles to the realization of the program, they contribute to the development of society. The first task of trade unions is interest representation. Everything else follows on this. The main guarantee of interest representation is the strengthening of economic bases. Without this there has not been, there is not, and will not be any effective interest representation. [end recording]

[Reporter] Sandor Gaspar drew attention to the fact that the biggest burden has always been carried by those living on wages and salaries. For this reason, he said, we must deal separately with wages policy and inflation.

[Begin Gaspar recording] It would be difficult to claim that we have a wages policy. We have no wages policy. We distribute the wages fund. The absence of the principle of performance has given rise to disproportions, the main characteristic of which is that we do not pay either the technical intelligentsia, or the humanist intelligentsia, or the skilled workers, or the qualified workers according to their worth. This must be changed. The principled bases of a new wages policy must be worked out in 1988.

It is necessary for the government to deal in depth with the problems of inflation, too. Double-digit inflation must be prevented at all costs from becoming permanent in our country. In this connection I consider it important to mention that an agreement has come into being between the government and trade union representatives: If price levels do not remain within the planned frameworks, then we will have to return also to the issue of wages, incomes, and social benefits.

Several comrade deputies have raised the issue of increasing family allowances. We agree with this. [end recording]

Grosz Interviewed on Reorganization, Issues

LD162317 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1700 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Interview with Hungarian Prime Minister Karoly Grosz by unidentified correspondent following the closing session of the National Assembly in Budapest on 16 December—recorded]

[Text] [Grosz] I was the one who submitted the agenda. The questions posed and the opinions voiced were completely realistic, justified, and—I would like to stress—helpful in their intentions. The reason I am using the words realistic and justified is that we have just carried out a very highly significant reorganization, for which we asked the National Assembly's support. There has not been a reorganization on this scale in the government's work since 1967. We spent many nights wondering whether we had thought everything over, whether the parts fitted together well so that the concept could be asserted. The concept is the government program adopted in September. The new organizational setup helps to more effectively implement the government program.

There has also been debate among ourselves about whether we have done everything that can be done today or whether we have acted hastily and taken steps which we have not thought through. In the end, it was revealed at today's exchange of opinions, too that the National Assembly supports this effort. It agrees that the decision making system should be simplified, that personal responsibility—because this is one of the most significant motivations of our efforts—could be asserted and pinpointed; that is who decided this, why was the decision made. The consequences of the decision will also be measurable and its author can be called to account.

They also accepted the fact—and we are very happy about this—that decentralization and centralization must take place at the same time. After all, the abolition of the Council Affairs Office of the Council of Ministers and the merger of the administrative oversight apparatus with the Interior Ministry represents under any circumstances the further development of democracy. This is one side; but parallel with this the establishment of the Council College [tanacsi kollegium] led by the chairman of the Council of Ministers serves the purpose of intensifying and strengthening the relationship between the Council of Ministers and the local self-governing organs.

[Correspondent] Who are the members of this college?

[Grosz] Well, we thought of the county council chairman and the chairman of the Budapest council and, in addition, council chairmen of five towns and five large communities. The purpose is so that the Council of Ministers will receive material on the experiences of councils from various levels, and not just through county council chairmen. I do not intend to offend anyone, of course. I do not think that they would filter out some of

the experiences, but if we discuss an important question by approaching it from various sides during the preparations then perhaps there is less chance of making a mistake, and the government's measures are taken (?on the basis of) life, practice, reality.

On the other hand, the fact that in the future there will be one government committee on the economy, the Planning and Economic Committee, instead of the current three economic committees, represents centralization.

The establishment of the Trade Ministry also represents centralization, although the emphasis is not on this. After all, the new reorganization of the former Internal Trade Ministry, Foreign Trade Ministry and, I stress, the Committee for International Relations and the merger of these spheres of activity is a centralizing activity in this area, i.e. in the area of trade, this is beyond dispute.

[Grosz] So when National Assembly deputies consider these [word indistinct] you must put yourself in their place. They have not followed and agonized as we have done in formulating these proposals. So, it is natural that when they first hear them many questions raised at the Assembly committee session when we discussed this. It was also debated at the session of the National Council of the Patriotic People's Front. Before that we consulted with representatives of the National Council of the Patriotic People's Front. We also consulted with representatives of the National Council of Trade Unions. And all these meetings were characterized by debate.

So I consider it natural that there was debate here, and also the fact that a great deal of advice was received on how the government should act in the future. The mood and reactions during the recess were interesting. Several deputies came up to me: Some shook my hand very warmly and said that they feel that something is happening, that we are making progress on the road we chose in September.

Well, I also stressed in the speech my deepest conviction that this country's economic situation will not be resolved, naturally, by the reorganization or modernization of the ministries, but by increasing productive work and economic output. But there are significant reserves in organizational modernization and in the choice of personnel which must be freed.

I treated as a question of ethics—if you like—the fact that this organization must be started in the highest government organs and not somewhere at the level of councils, or in the background institutions of ministries, or in any other organs. In a sense I would have also liked to indicate that we are looking around and putting our own house in order. We will then move farther afield, for the next step is to survey the internal structures of the ministries. There are, after all, ministries where there are 11 levels of decision making. Even if a document spends only 1 week at every level, just think how much time is needed before the preparation of the decision can take place.

So, regarding this current proposal, which is only the first step toward a complete reorganization, because we want to complete this by the end of 1988, i.e. 1 year earlier than the original program stated—this is another very significant change—I consider it natural that there was debate concerning the organizational questions and the personnel questions.

[Correspondent] Was there any criticism, were there any votes against, and if so, were there roughly the number you had expected, if you had expected it at all?

[Grosz] Well, on organizational questions and regarding the system of institutions there were differing opinions; there were different stances. There were very few, almost minimal, votes against, and there were very few abstentions. I feel that the assembly deputies willingly supported our simplifying effort, the draft promoting efficiency. I consider the votes against to be normal. After all, opposing opinions on a question is also constructive; it is also helpful in its intentions.

I would like to note at this point, by the way, that a government structure can be built in very many different ways. So, just because this one was approved it does not mean that this is the most perfect. It is possible to work within other structures, too. After a lot of debate, we opted for this one. So, I consider the stance of a deputy who votes against this concept on a question of detail as worthy of as much respect as the opinion of the person who voted for it.

The size of the vote against was larger on personnel questions. This is also understandable, but every nominee was approved by a huge majority. The fact that apart from votes against there were also abstentions I can explain—maybe incorrectly—by saying that there are many deputies who do not have personal experience which contact with the nominee could have provided. So they did not want to vote either for against the person in question, because they were not convinced that the nominee was worthy of their support. You have to get used to this. This is an organic part and the consequence of the development of political culture.

Public Reported in 'Low Mood' Over Changes

AU161245 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 7 Dec 87 p 3

[Article by Zsuzsa Gal: "Changes in Our Mood"]

[Text] It appears as though more than the usual amount of bitterness were mixed nowadays with the legendary and world-famous Budapest gaiety. According to a new joke circulating in Budapest, for example, the Hungarians intend to combine the Swedish tax system with the Ethiopian wage scale.

If my memory serves me right—and several people have assured me it does—2 months ago, public opinion did not have the same reactions to the proposals adopted by the National Assembly in September as it has at present. The reception given to the development program, the stabilization policy that would prepare it, and the tax reform that would constitute the initial step was, on the whole, favorable. The reception was favorable and there was understanding, and the public was even willing to make sacrifices. What has happened since then? What has injected bitterness into the public mood?

Actually, nothing has happened; everything has occurred as expected; at most, the same things were placed in a different light as time passed. They moved from the light of a rational understanding to the light of actual experience. It is one thing to understand and comprehend something, and another thing to experience it after the choice has been made to accept it. The course of reason and the course of feelings tend to sometimes diverge.

Lost Illusions [subhead]

I think that all that has happened is that 2 months have passed. During this time we experienced something that we previously approached only intellectually. We are beginning to experience what a decline in the living standard means for people who for decades have been accustomed to an increasing living standard, and who have deluded themselves by believing that constant growth is an advantage that obviously accompanies social construction. However, at present all of us are being affected by taxes and inflation.

We are beginning to experience what the meaning of the price increases planned for next year will be and what it will mean for us if these increases are not accompanied by corresponding wage increases or if the budget can compensate for the price increases for the poorest strata, and even then only to a limited degree.

In addition we are also witnessing phenomena that are perhaps not directly related to the policy of stabilization. We see that except for the announcement that we have a two-digit inflation rate, very little information about expected prices of certain products is available, consequently, we are uniformed, and we give shop sales personnel tips for a color television set, for example, which, as we find out later is not going up in price. We ourselves have fueled inflation through our tips at technical shops, as well as at building material stores, at furniture stores, and other places. It is true that procedures are also promoting inflation, at least those who, by making unannounced price increases, are trying to create a better position for themselves in terms of the next year's accounting.

We are also witnessing the fact that many people are withdrawing their money from banks because the interest paid on deposits or securities is not keeping pace with inflation. We would like to spend the money that we have withdrawn, but the selection and variety of goods have decreased. The situation with large sums, is different. this money is invested in expensive real estate valued in the millions, and is thus also increasing inflation because the value of this property is currently increasing considerably. Naturally, those who have only a little money can do nothing with it because one cannot buy real estate, objets d'art, paintings, or gold for small amounts of money. No refrigerator or television set need be purchased if one already has one and, if not, there might be difficulties in getting one even at stores.

Opinions regarding the reasons for this situation fall into two categories. Some people assumed that a decrease in the value of savings is a direct result of the intention to curb consumption. Others think that the issues is different, that is, that the market influences following the announcement of the price increases caught the economy unprepared; for this reason, the government now has to ensure that supplies for Christmas are improved through supplementary imports, and the government is trying to keep the money in banks and securities by paying a supplementary premium on interest rates.

I think that the second version is more valid, especially since when money is withdrawn from banks, this is unfavorable for everyone, particularly for the economic managers, because the national budget, state enterprises, local councils, and production cooperatives make use of the money in banks no matter in what form it is deposited. The economy needs this money. As long as it is in the banks, it can be applied for public purposes; but if it is withdrawn and spent, it accelerates inflation and becomes frozen in capital goods, or it encourages lavish life styles and unnecessary consumption.

Financial Fears [subhead]

The expected inflation must be a source of worry for financial administrators as well. Under two-digit inflation, any enterprise that does not increase prices will suffer losses. Thus, there is the fear that producers and vendors will attempt to increase in prices. If they to this, inflation can run wild and a price increase spiral can result, which will be difficult to control. This is not our goal and we have to avoid this. Financial administrators are thinking of ways to avoid this situation, and with this in view, the administration is modifying certain aspects of its plan concerning price regulation and price control measures.

What is needed is certainly not to simply curb consumption. It is at least as important to replace current prices, which tolerate unjustified expenses and prevent a clear understanding of the situation, with prices that are understood by society and that reflect investments society has approved. If producers and vendors can express in their prices any expenses they have had, what would force them to curb waste and to manage their activities more efficiently? If prices can also reflect unjustified expenses, how can the consumer and the user have a

clear picture? What can then direct people's purchases from a wrong direction to one that is expedient from the point of view of the entire economy? Current prices are vague in this respect and push private and public consumption in the wrong direction.

On the other hand, prices that are closer to real values encourage more economical management and remove some of the uncertainty. Prices closer to the real value, however, have so far been effective only in economies where shortages of goods have not distorted market relations. Such prices have not yet been tried in a shortage economy, and we are not at a point yet where we can say that the Hungarian economy is not experiencing shortages. Thus, price modifications under current conditions is an unexplored road, and proceeding along it is not without risk.

The people probably would not protect rational price increases were they accompanied by wage reform. However, at the moment there is no money for this, not even if wage reform meant only a more significant distribution of wages rather than wage increases, that is, even if there were greater compensation for more complex tasks requiring greater amounts of training and lower compensation than at present for irresponsible and sloppy work. The initial step of the wage reform, the elimination of centrally determined maximum limits on wages, can only come next year.

This certainly also plays a part in lowering our mood sometimes. I wonder what could improve our mood-the mood of people who in September received the government's work program with understanding and who seemed ready to undertake sacrifices we have accepted, that is the success of the policy of stabilization.

First Buds [subhead]

However, this policy of stabilization is a long-term one whose fruits mature slowly. This fact was expressed honestly and at the proper time. Moreover, this has happened in a way that can be measured and demonstrated by numbers. For example, we can note that almost all of the main economic indicators have improved in the past few months. We can already be almost certain that this year's foreign trade balance accounted in convertible currencies will be better than last year. We can already be sure that we will be able to settle the affairs of several unprofitable enterprises and thus reduce the expenditures made to support them.

This is the place for self-criticism, because we speak seldom about initial successes and the faint indicators that foreshadow them. The fact is that we, the press, do not sufficiently emphasize the favorable signs to the public. Our attention becomes diverted by troubles and worries and by the various difficulties that accompany the changes. We have long been disgusted by previous propaganda about success, and we are now also "protecting" the public from tangible and concrete results. We should find the right proportions at long last.

In addition to all this, other issues are also causing the public mood to fluctuate—the issue of whether we should advance more slowly or more quickly along the road of reforms, because while it seems safer to move more slowly, it seems more efficient to move more quickly. From the many reform measures, let us take as an example the measure that withdraws support from enterprises continuously making losses. If this measure is applied very slowly and very gradually, at any given time only a few hundred or a few thousand people will have to change jobs, or will be temporarily unemployed. In this case, however, it would be necessary to spend additional billions of forints on supporting inefficient activities, and little or nothing would remain to modernize the way production is structured.

Modernizing the way production is structured—that is, stopping the production of goods with limited markets and developing industrial branches that produce modern goods—is one of the main cures for our difficulties. The budget as well as the balance of payments will improve more quickly as we are better able to shift production to goods that can be marketed easily abroad and that can be efficiently produced. In this way, the economy could be stabilized more quickly, and this would be followed more quickly by economic development. However, such a shift would cause tensions in society; and the less developed the protective social network intended to alleviate these tensions is, the greater the tensions would be. Should we then quickly develop such a protective social network? Yes, but this also requires money, and money comes only from work that creates value, we will be to create increased value only through a more modern industrial structure. Is this a vicious circle? It looks like one, but we will break out of it. We will break out of it because we must and because we can make no progress—and this has been demonstrated—with half solutions. We will break out of it in the same way as we will have to break out of other vicious circles for our cause to be successful. Our program exists; but while we are thinking about concrete solutions and ways to avoid vicious circles and while we are weighing all the risks inherent in the implementation of one measure or another, our mood is changeable—it gets worse when risks and sacrifices seem great; it improves when we feel progress is rapid.

Public Words [Subhead]

At present, in the final weeks of the current year, we have precisely the feeling that inflation is accompanied by many risks and the decrease in the standard of living means significant sacrifices from all of us. This is what we are feeling at present in the public budget as well as in

small family households, and in the course of the preparations we are forced to make, we lose sight of what we should know—that all this serves the cause of quicker progress.

But when we see—and I am sure this will be—that the government is taking strict action against unjustified price increases and that it is controlling prices and thus is protecting the people from a further decline in their living standard, then the source of our bad mood will disappear. When we see increased publicity given to the decisions of the economic managers, intensified consultations by management with the people, and strengthened social supervision, we will feel more confident because we will know that our fate is in our hands. When we are more confident, our mood will also lighten.

Together with all this, it is necessary to experience success. When a person on a diet weighs himself daily and sees that his abstinance has been successful and that the scales show better results than on the day before, then it will be easier for him to continue with the diet. The coming sessions of the leading national bodies will certainly evaluate what has been done so far. If these scales also show signs of a favorable change—and hopefully this is what they will show, because the long-term economic policy is already showing initial results—we also will bear the difficulties in a different fashion.

To remain optimistic under these conditions, we must believe in people and in the positive attitude to life that is inherent in the human strength and will. Why should we not believe in them, when we know very well that we as people like to develop our abilities and measure our knowledge, and even if for this reason alone, we can be persuaded to work, create, and take action. The clearer the goals and the more democratic the decisions that concern the public are, the more explicitly will we do this.

This is why words addressed to the public and democratic decisions are desirable, as is success. They can have the effect of improving our mood.

'Suppression' of 1970 Demonstrations Marked

Walesa Calls for Dialogue

LD161852 Hamburg DPA in German
1822 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Text] Warsaw (DPA)—In Gdansk today Lech Walesa, chairman of the banned trade union Solidarity, called on the political leadership to have a dialogue with the opposition. In a speech on the anniversary of the bloody suppression of the workers' demonstrations of 1970, he told about 1,000 participants that the stagnation and uncertainty about the future in Poland could lead to acts of desperation and unrest.

The government's reforms are not in line with the people's hopes and expectations. They provide neither for reconciliation with the people nor true pluralism. Walesa assured that the policy of Soviet party leader Mikhail Gorbachev is being followed with hope in Poland. He called on the state to make a "humanitarian" gesture to enable all political prisoners to spend Christmas at home. The opposition believes there are at present 23 political prisoners in Poland. The authorities claim that these persons have not been imprisoned for political reasons. Twelve of them are conscientious objectors.

Flowers Laid in Gdansk

LD162033 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish
1800 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Text] On the 17th anniversary of the December events of 1970, flowers were laid today at the Gdansk shipyard workers' monument. Taking part in the ceremony were: representatives of the PRON, of the Municipal Council, and delegations from the largest industrial plants in Gdansk. Tomorrow, flowers will be laid at the monument to those who died in Gdynia in 1970.

Miners Remembered on Martial Law Anniversary

LD162034 Warsaw Television Service in Polish
1830 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Text] On the sixth anniversary of the events at the Wujek colliery [when seven miners were killed by security forces following the imposition of martial law], representatives of the workforce and voivodship authorities laid flowers at the plaque commemorating the memory of miners who died at their place of work in the struggles for national freedom and social justice.

1988 Draft Budget Submitted to Sejm

LD152051 Warsaw PAP in English
1816 GMT 15 Dec 87

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 15—The government draft budget law for 1988 and draft financial plans for the next year (including those of the state balance of payments, credit plan and the balance of money incomes and spending of the population) have been filed with the Sejm.

The government also tabled to the Sejm a resolution on the Central Annual Plan for 1988.

Economic 'Events' Completed in Paris

'Favorable' Bank Talks End

LD161846 Warsaw Domestic Service
in Polish 1800 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Michal Walczak dispatch from Paris]

[Text] Two events connected with issues related to our economy have taken place in the French capital.

Talks between 25 banks from Europe and America with Poland's representatives and with the participation of the World Bank have been completed. Our delegation was led by Professor Wladyslaw Baka, chairman of the Polish National Bank. A report by the World Bank was discussed. This document assesses positively the directions of Polish reforms. An atmosphere which is favorable for our plans has been created. This is Professor Wladyslaw Baka's opinion.

International financial circles are now awaiting the effects of our actions. This is the condition for the opening of new credit possibilities to finance the second stage of the reform.

An agreement with the Paris Club countries covering Polish debt repayments until the end of 1988, which amounts to almost $9 billion, was also signed in Paris today. The agreements envisage a rescheduling of repayment for 10 years and a 5-year grace period. They are the basis for more general solutions of the Polish debt problem, with the participation of the IMF and the World Bank.

Paris Club Reschedules Debt

AU171033 Paris AFP in English
0201 GMT 17 Dec 87

[Text] Paris, Dec 16 (AFP)—Poland and the Paris Club of 17 creditor nations signed an agreement Wednesday to reschedule nine billion dollars of the country's public foreign debt, informed sources said here.

The agreement, struck after "difficult talks" in Warsaw by Polish leaders and Paris Club envoys on October 30, has not been modified before its final signature, a reliable source said.

All debts outstanding as of December 31, as well as government debts in 1987 and 1988, the sources said, are to be rescheduled under Wednesday's agreement.

Recent statements by Polish Deputy Finance Minister Andrzej Dorosz have indicated that the debt would be rescheduled over ten years, with a five-year moratorium.

Wednesday's agreement apparently did not iron out entirely Poland's difficulties with the Paris Club, however.

As government spokesman Jerzy Urban said after the talks in October, the "complicated problem" of interest rates, not discussed in the latest talks, will have to be brought up individually with each creditor.

But an official at one of Poland's European creditor banks, close to the so-called London Club grouping of some 500 commercial banks, said the agreement bade well for Poland's debt negotiations with them.

"We are, however, waiting for Poland to sign an agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on the extension of stand-by credits."

"The London Club could then sign," he said.

According to Mr. Dorosz, Poland owes 22 billion dollars to the Paris Club, nine billion to the London club, two billion to Eastern Europe — mainly the Soviet Union - and three billion to other unspecified creditors.

Sadowski Interviewed on Referendum, Reform

AU161200 Warsaw POLITYKA in Polish
12 Dec 87 p 3

[Interview with Deputy Premier Zdzislaw Sadowski-,chairman of the Planning Commission, by Jerzy Kleer and Jacek Poprzeczko: "I Reject the View That Most People Rejected the Program"—date and place not given]

[Text] [Reporters] Mr Premier, we have heard the view many times lately that you should resign because you are one of the authors of an economic program that has failed to receive the required number of votes in the referendum.

[Sadowski] I would have resigned immediately if this program really had been rejected in the referendum. However, because almost 12 million people voted for it, I believe my resignation would ruin the trust held by the majority of voters. I do not think the results of the referendum should be interpreted in such a way as to say that society has spoken out in favor of slower economic changes. The most radical version of the program was presented, and it is this radical version that attracted most of the voters.

[Reporters] But radical changes can also be spread out over a longer period of time, and perhaps this is what is going to happen.

[Sadowski] The referendum showed that there is support for radical and rapid changes, including changes in an area that is cause for fear for a considerable segment of our society—in other words, prices. However, democracy requires that the views and fears of the minority also be taken into consideration. Hence, the government believes that the price increases have to be slowed down, but without abandoning rapid changes in all other spheres.

[Reporters] So, what price increases can we expect in 1988?

[Sadowski] In accordance with the forecasts, we will want to increase the prices of fuel, energy, and basic raw materials. For example, wholesale prices of coal should rise by an average of 55-60 percent. We cannot abandon this because it is a condition for the success of reform as a whole, and besides the need for such an increase is understood by the people.

[Reporters] People are mainly interested in retail price increases.

[Sadowski] These prices also have to increase, not just because of the increase in wholesale prices, but also because we should reduce the level of subsidies on consumer goods and services. Lower subsidies would allow lower budgetary expenditures, which means, for example, that enterprises would not have to be taxed so high to strengthen the budget. We wanted to perform this entire operation as quickly as possible. However, society's fear of major retail price increases, especially of subsidized commodities, was so strong that it is now considered necessary to spread these increases out over time.

So the increases planned for 1988 now have to be spread out over 3 years. I cannot say exactly what will go up next year and by how much, because this has not been finally decided, but from what I have said, one may conclude that the scale of the price increases will be less than that presented in the explanations accompanying the referendum questions.

Let me recall that the increases in official prices will not act as a burden because the price increases of basic goods and services are intended to be compensated for through increased incomes. We maintain the principle that there will be no drop in real incomes.

[Reporters] That is the same as keeping incomes at the same level. But how will this affect various groups of society? Has the government any idea which groups may be affected the worst by the increases? We have in mind old-age pensioners and invalids in particular.

[Sadowski] The exact rules governing compensation have been presented many times, and they are not going to change. I say yet again that the interests of old-age pensioners and invalids have been taken into consideration in these rules, and to the highest degree.

[Reporters] Mr Premier, we have doubts about the official interpretation of the referendum results, which boils down to this: Nothing has really happened, most of the voters supported the program, so nothing needs to be changed except the question of prices.

Has indeed nothing happened? After all, most of the eligible voters responded to this program through silence or distrust. Has this been interpreted correctly? Are people really afraid of price increases, or are they afraid, based on their experience, that these increases will not improve the economy, but will worsen family budgets?

[Sadowski] I firmly reject the view that most people have rejected the program. Never before in the history of Poland has a program received almost 12 million "yes" votes by secret ballot. Despite the fears that no doubt tormented them, a great mass of people has expressed unanimous support for radical reform. It is also untrue that the only changes we are making to the program are the ones I mentioned.

This program is not ideal; it is open to proposals on how to enrich it. Additional major solutions are required, especially on how to implement it. The program's implementation has yet to begin, in accordance with the implementation schedule.

In other spheres, such as the restructuring of central management, we have made great progress.

The prereferendum debate provided an excellent opportunity to uncover various loopholes and inconsistencies in the program. We are taking all this into consideration and are making necessary adjustments with all due consideration to the opinions of experts and the voice of public opinion. However, there is no reason to alter the program's general structure and logic.

The main point is to achieve market equilibrium by increasing production and supplies. This is being encouraged by many activities of a political-economic, organizational, institutional, and legal nature. There are frequent complaints that little is being said about all this but this is because the problem of prices has obscured people's view of everything else. After all, most people have not read and probably never will read the program, but they do read announcements on the performance of monthly tasks, so they know that the accent is being placed on increasing supplies.

[Reporters] Social consciousness is not shaped by programs, but by experience. What does experience tell us? We have lived through many price and income adjustments of various scales. They have always been accompanied by the explanation that they are not meant to be extreme.

[Sadowski] I beg your pardon, not always. The 1982 increases clearly were extreme, and no one said they were not. What happened? We had empty shelves. The standard of living had already fallen earlier, so it was necessary to bring prices in line with this state of affairs. If someone says this operation achieved no results, this only goes to show that he is incapable of conducting economic analyses. However, it is true that no operation like this can solve all problems. For this reason we are this time simultaneously undertaking a host of actions whose general aim is to accelerate an increase in supplies.

A prices-incomes adjustment is only one of the program's features. I keep having to emphasize this fact, which is usually omitted in all public discussions. I assure you that we too are drawing conclusions from past experience.

The main conclusion is that the reform has to embrace a large number of related issues at the same time. It has to affect all institutions and all principles of economic action, and more. Hence the closer connection this time between economic and sociopolitical changes.

[Reporters] People say that we are proceeding to a new system of management, but great prices-incomes adjustments seem to be a quality of the old system. The old system was always dominated by market disequilbrium, which grew worse every now and then. The control mechanism called for periodic returns of market equilibrium, or at least attempts to restore it by raising prices. Are we not faced with the same phenomenon this time as well?

[Sadowski] It really was a weakness of the old system that there was no automatic balancing out of supply and demand because of the lack of adjustment mechanisms on both sides of the balance. The essence of the reform is to introduce such mechanisms. This is what we have been striving to do from the very beginning, and we have covered a considerable distance along this road.

We want to achieve a state of affairs in which prices are freely shaped by supply and demand. The point of departure was provided by the system of prices that failed to meet this requirement. The first stage of the reform has been criticized, but in fact we took a great step forward by introducing so-called contract prices on a broad scale. Now we want to go even further, restricting the extent of official prices even more. Next year, for example, we intend to publish a list of free-market prices which will not be controlled at all.

Indeed there is now a changeover from the old system of management to a new one. The "implementation program" is a reply to the question of how to do it. It answers, among other things, the question of how to rid

ourselves of official prices in favor of market prices—and also how to abandon the prices system that is distorted by subsidies. That is the purpose of the present price adjustment.

[Reporters] The prices of fuels and basic raw materials are to be brought in line with world prices. Does that mean they will change all the time according to the prices on international markets and exchange rates?

[Sadowski] That is what we are aiming toward. Prices should be flexible. Of course they cannot change from one day to the next, but they must be able to adapt to supply and demand, taking into account the world market.

[Reporters] How will this look in practice? For example, how often will the coal price be changed this year?

[Sadowski] I do not know! This price will be changed as often as required by supply and demand, but it does not have to be changed overnight because this can be prevented by the appropriate mechanisms.

[Reporters] The rather high subsidies will have to stay because the government has abandoned the plan to radically raise retail prices. What will be the results of this? What about subsidies policy? What will be subsidized? How will the state budget be affected? The planned balancing of this year's budget has misfired. What about balancing it 1988?

[Sadowski] Many factors are responsible for this year's budget deficit, including the fact that we have not carried out a number of planned price hikes. Subsidizing means that if buyers do not pay the full price for goods or services, all the people have to make up the difference. Those who buy and those who do not, have to make up this difference. This is not right. Subsidies may be justified if, say, you want to stimulate demand for some product. Milk is one such product and will be subsidized for a long time. But subsidizing butter or cheese is senseless.

The main problem is that subsidies on staples such as milk, grain, and meat products are absurdly high. The reason for this is high production costs, which must be reduced by eliminating inefficient farms and industrial enterprises and by transferring production equipment to the units that achieve good results.

All this is included in the executive program, but people fail to notice it because prices are their main preoccupation. Reducing costs is a long process, and that is why now we have to foot the bill as it stands. This calls for price hikes if the budget is not to be overextended. Since price hikes will not reach the planned level, it will be harder to balance the budget.

[Reporters] Changes in procurement were expected to improve food supplies. Why is it that the monopoly of meat purchases has been eliminated, at least for the time being?

[Sadowski] As the planned meat price hikes will not materialize, we are unable to lift meat rationing in 1988. The continuation of meat rationing necessitates the maintenance of the present procurement system.

Meat sales outside this system—in free markets—will not only continue, but we will promote them because we want to create a market offering many kinds of meat at greatly differentiated prices.

[Reporters] How do you evaluate the general situation in the flow of goods? People continue to do whatever they can to forestall the projected prices hikes. Will this cause a total breakdown in the flow of food and make it necessary to restore rationing?

[Sadowski] I do not see any such danger in the flow of food. People are buying mostly sugar, but we have no trouble with sugar supplies. Technical troubles are the most that may happen. But massive purchases of the durables are causing difficulties. People regard such purchases as capital investments. This is bad for trade, but we cannot do anything about it.

[Reporters] You said that people talk too much about prices and are unaware of what is most important in the executive program: measures to increase supplies. The partial reason for this unawareness is because it is difficult to present these measures in as simple a manner as the planned price hikes. But let us discuss these measures.

What is to be done to ensure that production equipment is delivered first of all to the most efficient industrial enterprises and farms? Is it possible to speak about creating a free market of production equipment in Poland?

[Sadowski] It is not only possible but necessary to speak of such a market in our country. This is precisely what we want to create. We want to have a free market of production equipment that can be bought at free prices.

[Reporters] You mean you want a market in which one will be able to freely buy not only raw and other materials, but also machines and equipment at balanced prices?

[Sadowski] This is precisely our goal. We made an important stride in this direction in the period behind us. In this connection I have in mind primarily our efforts to gradually curb the system of distributing production equipment. But we cannot achieve this goal by a single decree. If the elimination of the central system of distribution is merely a formal act, this system will prevail at the selling points because of the shortages of

production equipment. That is why it is all the more important to take good care of this equipment when in operation and to ensure that it is sold to the most productive manufacturers. This is why we are so keen of creating a free market.

[Reporters] Can such a market be created in the foreseeable future?

[Sadowski] If we accomplish all the commitments of the executive program, we may have a free market in 1990.

[Reporters] Worker communities continue to frequently express fears about the excessive development of the private sector. Will the principle that this sector enjoys equality be fully implemented under the conditions of the free market for production equipment?

[Sadowski] In our economy the private sector plays a complementary role. The time has come for us to realize that this sector should play this role permanently, enjoying assured favorable and stable conditions of performance and development. This does not undermine the principles of socialism in any way. On the contrary, this favors the realization of these principles, because the fundamental socialist principle is to meet the needs of society in the best possible way. The private sector is able to meet many of these needs much more effectively than the socialized sector.

I am not a champion of reprivatization and I do not believe that private ownership as such is able to guarantee more efficient economic management. On the contrary, I know that efficient socialized enterprises often achieve better results than private ones. But when these two sectors are guaranteed full equality, conditions will be created for them to show which one of them is better and in which areas. Private enterprises will be able to compete among themselves and with socialized enterprises. They will be able to develop and expand.

Should we raise barriers against their size? I prefer a different solution. I think that, having reached the legally determined limits, private enterprises should be encouraged to change the form of ownership. Even now it is possible to establish private-state joint enterprises. Having achieved a certain size, private enterprises should turn themselves into just such joint companies. Their owners should be encouraged by various concession, including taxation reliefs, to achieve this. Nor is there anything to prevent the owner of the private enterprises from becoming the head of the joint company, provided he is willing to do so.

[Reporters] There is much fear of differentiated incomes, which will become even more differentiated as a result of the economic reform.

[Sadowski] I know that my contacts with the worker community show that workers generally accept the principle that wages should depend on actual results of work. However, workers are not as keen to accept that their wages should also depend on the results of the performance of their enterprises.

The famous question whether the same locksmith should earn lower wages in one enterprise and better in another one can be answered in only one way: All that counts is actual results and not hours spent in the enterprise. A locksmith is bound to earn worse wages in the enterprise whose performance is worse. If he does not like this, he should look for a job in a more effective enterprise.

The very point is that workers and production equipment should be directed to the most effective enterprises. Let the inefficient enterprises go bust. Deng Xiaoping was right when he called this state of affairs a socialist form of exploitation.

[Reporters] What will the Planning Commission do when we have a free market for consumables, production equipment, and manpower?

[Sadowski] Thank you for being so solicitous about the Planning Commission. I will certainly not be one of those who would like to eliminate it. The commission has great tasks to accomplish. I will try to change its functions in line with the principles of the program we are discussing here.

The main role of the central plan is to determine the strategy of the country's development and the instruments with which to realize this strategy. The process of changing the nature of long-term and annual plans has continued to operate for some time now, and we have dropped the practice of laying down detailed tasks for enterprises. Detailed planning continues to be executed to a very small extent only.

Under the new system the Planning Commission will become the staff echelon of the government. I think that the commission's tasks will be even more important than in the past. This is because organizing the great processes of economic development is a much more important activity than distributing materials and filling in gaps in supplies.

[Reporters] We would like to come back soon to the issue of planning and the role of the Planning Commission. Thank you for the interview.

Czyrek Views Significance of 6th Plenum

LD161958 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Interview with Jozef Czyrek, chairman of the Resolutions and Suggestions Commission at the Sixth Plenum of the PZPR Central Committee, by Warsaw Television correspondent Tumanowicz; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Tumanowicz] To what extent did the referendum results have an impact on the sixth plenum proceedings? To put it briefly, did its two-part formula pass the test?

[Czyrek] Yes, fully. The plenum seriously examined the situation in light of the referendum results. This was reflected in the discussion but it was primarily reflected in the first secretary's introduction to the deliberations. Finally, it was also expressed in the resolution itself, where, among other things, the plenum expressed its approval of the modifications to the economic reform program, connected precisely with the referendum results.

[Tumanowicz] Since you have mentioned the resolution: Having read it, a thought comes to mind about it not being very concrete.

[Czyrek] It may seem this way. This is because the resolution formula is new. The resolution is limited to the presentation of directional guidelines for party policy, and it makes specific the tasks. The Politburo is then obligated to work out a detailed program, a schedule for accomplishing all the tasks which arise both from the Politburo report, the summing up, and from the discussion. The resolution obligates the Politburo to submit this program, this schedule to the Central Committee. This extends the role of this echelon, the highest echelon in the party, as far as making programs for our activity is concerned.

Finally, the resolution obligates the Politburo to submit annual reports to the Central Committee on the implementation of this plan, this schedule.

The resolution finally obligates the parliamentary PZPR to take all measures connected with the necessary legal acts, making the implementation of the reforms possible.

Finally [as heard], it obligates all the party echelons and organizations to prepare their own programs to accomplish tasks arising from the sixth plenum. Thus, it seems to me that the formula to make the tasks more specific is even more extensive than in the traditional type of resolutions.

[Tumanowicz] On 25 November, Wojciech Jaruzelski, while opening the proceedings, said that there were plenary sessions of the Central Committee which deserved to be called historic. Can we apply this today to the sixth plenum?

[Czyrek] I think that we can say this, for the plenum expressed its approval of the comprehensive program of reforms, deep political and economic reforms. These reforms are the achievement of the PZPR and the allied parties, our economists, the Sejm, and the government. They have been consulted along with all of society and the nation by means of the referendum. The party has never had such a program.

On the other hand, as to whether the plenum will have such historic significance, this will be decided by the accomplishment of these tasks. From this, both in the summing up of the first secretary and in the resolution, the accent is placed on the accomplishment. The starting point is the assumption that here we have a comprehensive program; now is the time to concentrate all our strength, all our attention, all the reformist strengths in the party on accomplishing these tasks. I am convinced that this activity will also confirm the historic significance of the plenum.

[Tumanowicz] Thank you very much for the interview.

Plenum Elects New Politburo Member

LD151912 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 15 Dec 87

[Excerpt] [Announcer] The proceedings of the sixth plenum are in progress. Our reporter is on duty behind the scenes of the discussion hall. Let us go over to him now:

[Unidentified correspondent] This is the final part of the deliberations of the sixth plenum. A moment ago, literally a few minutes ago, the results of the supplementary elections to the Politburo were announced. Mieczyslaw Rakowski has been elected a Politburo member, and Manfred Gorywoda has been elected a Politburo candidate member. [passage omitted]

Social, Party Unrest Reportedly Spreading

SCINTEIA Edition Reportedly Destroyed

AU161334 Paris AFP in English
1329 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Text] Bucharest, Dec 16 (AFP)—Social unrest that swept through Romania's second largest city, Brasov, last month seems to be spreading, analysts said here Wednesday, pointing to a reported arson attack in Bucharest Monday that destroyed an entire edition of the Communist Party daily.

They noted that Tuesday's first edition of the daily SCINTEIA contained a major speech by Romanian leader Nicolae Ceausescu.

A second edition of the paper only reached the streets of the capital at noon Tuesday. The fire was seen Wednesday as a mark of protest against the regime.

Another fire broke out late last week when tyres were burnt in a building opposite the SCINTEIA offices, damaging a statue of Lenin, reliable sources said. The slogan "give us back our country" was daubed on the statue, the sources added.

A national party conference attended by Mr. Ceausescu was due to end late Wednesday, with changes appearing likely in the Central Committee.

Indications of friction within the ruling Communist Party emerged last month with the dismissal of four senior party officials, including first secretary Gheorghe Matei, at Craiova, in Dolj Province, in the southwest of the country.

Reporting the dismissals, the Romanian news agency AGERPRES said they were "just and founded" because of the "seriousness of the actions committed." The men were accused of "serious deviations", although the nature of their actions was not revealed.

Reports from the region indicated that the men had been removed from office for criticising the government's economic policy.

Deputy party leader Emil Bobu took the unusual step of visiting Craiova to attend the regional conference held in preparation for this week's national conference.

The unrest caused by severe shortages culminated in demonstrations by some 10,000 people in Brasov on November 15 in which two policemen were killed during attacks on Communist Party headquarters.

Further demonstrations in which students have joined with workers have been held in other large towns. The police and army, which intervened at Brasov, did not intervene in later demonstrations, informed sources said.

Some observers have suggested that sections of the police are inclined to sympathise with the demonstrators for whom the "cup of privations is full", in the words of a senior party member and former Romanian ambassador, Silviu Brucan, in a statement distributed to foreign journalists.

However the disturbances have so far given rise only to a further wave of repression, including the arrest of several people who spoke about the unrest to western television stations.

Mariana Celac-Botez, wife of the dissident Romanian mathematician Mikhail Botez, has in effect been placed under house arrest after appearing in an interview on a French television station, observers here noted Wednesday.

A police guard was stationed outside Mrs. Celac-Botez's house, and she was prevented from receiving visitors. AFP was unable to contact her by telephone, and her line appeared to have been cut.

The Romanian ambassador in Paris was called to the French Foreign Ministry Monday to give assurances concerning two other people interviewed on French television, former university lecturer Doina Cornea and noted dissident Radu Filipescu.

DIE PRESSE Report

AU170948 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German
17 Dec 87 p 2

[Correspondent Zdzislaw P. Gwozdz dispatch: "Ceausescu Promises Meat to Romanians; Arson at Party Newspaper?"]

[Excerpt] Bucharest—[passage omitted]

On Wednesday [16 December] reports were circulating in Bucharest that a large part of the Tuesday edition of the party newspaper SCINTEIA had been destroyed by fire; arson cannot be ruled out.

This would be the third attack in Bucharest within the past few months. As we reported, a few days ago several car tires were set on fire in front of the Lenin monument near the offices of the party newspaper. Immediately before the visit of Soviet party chief Gorbachev at the end of May, a wooden triumphal arch near the newspaper building bearing the inscription "The Era of Ceausescu—Romania's Golden Age" had been set on fire.

Further on RCP National Conference

Ceausescu Addresses Final Session

AU161135 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1034 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Speech by RCP Secretary General Nicolae Ceausescu at the 16 December closing session of the RCP National Conference—Live]

[Text] Esteemed comrades, we close the proceedings of the Fifth Party National Conference in complete unity and with the unanimous determination to do all we can to commendably implement the targets established by the Eighth, [Ceausescu corrects himself] by the 13th Party Congress on our socioeconomic development and the goals of the program on building the comprehensively developed socialist society and ensuring Romania's firm march forward toward communism. [cheers, chants]

The conference debates were characterized by a responsible critical and self-critical tackling of the complex problems of socialist construction in our fatherland and in the world situation. As one could see, some 2,000, [Ceausescu corrects himself] some 287 delegates took the floor in the plenum and sections. They examined in detail the agenda points and the work in all sectors. They also advanced hundreds of proposals for improving the activity, management, and planning in all socioeconomic fields.

Therefore, one can justifiably state that the Party National Conference proceedings were a strong manifestation of internal party democracy and of the revolutionary democracy in our fatherland, which ensures the whole nation's participation in running all fields of activity. [cheers, chants]

In full unanimity, the conference adopted the report, other documents, and the resolution, which open up wonderful prospects for Romania's unswerving march forward toward new peaks of progress and civilization and for the continuous increase in the material and intellectual well-being of the entire nation. [applause]

The national conference unanimously reiterated the correctness of the 1986-90 5-year plan and of the programs on scientifically organizing, modernizing, standardizing, and improving the economic-financial activity and on firmly implementing self-management, self-supply, and all the historic decisions of the 13th party congress. In this connection, we must say that the wonderful prospects for our fatherland's socioeconomic development in the next 3 years and up to the year 2000 require a strong intensification of overall efforts and an improvement of all fields of activity. We must proceed in such a way as to ensure that—in the complex internal, and particularly, international circumstances of today—we unflinchingly fulfill the 5-year plan and other programs, promote our fatherland's overall development, and raise it to new peaks of progress and civilization. [cheers, chants]

I referred again to these problems because, even now, some international economic-financial bodies of the Common Market and the United States are forecasting gloomy prospects for economic development. They talk about a slowing-down of the economic development rate, which they estimate to stay around the figure of 2 percent. Phenomena of fluctuation and disturbance in the world monetary and financial situation have become apparent, not to mention the difficult situation of the developing countries. In these circumstances, we must properly realize that the gloomy world economic prospects, even the worsening of the world economic situation require that we take all necessary steps, in a spirit of greater responsibility, to diminish the influence of these factors and thus ensure the implementation of our fatherland's development programs. [cheers, chants]

However, this also requires us—in this respect, I would like to reiterate what I have said in my report to the conference—to develop cooperation with all countries in the world in order to overcome these problems and to intensify production cooperation and specialization with other nations, in order to achieve a truly free trade and establish equitable and equal economic relations, which is the only way to overcome the serious international economic problems and promote a stable economy, which can secure each nation's development. [cheers, chants]

Esteemed comrades, we have realistic decisions, plans, programs, which are fully in accordance with our material base and with the creative capability of all our working people and nation. We have everything we need to fulfill these plans. Now, it is vital to proceed most resolutely to taking practical steps and all the necessary organizational and scientific-technical measures to implement our plans and programs. We should do all we can to conclude the 1987 plan with ever better results and to devote ourselves with all our might, from the first day of next year, to fulfilling the 1988 plan.

This year and particularly during the last few weeks, we discussed in detail the provisions of next year's plan, which are well-known to all conference participants, the whole party, and nation. We must do our best to really ensure that 1988 becomes a year with the best results thus far in the current 5-year plan and paves the way for commendably fulfilling the entire 5-year plan. [cheers, chants]

At the close of this conference, I want to reiterate the need to pay greater attention than has been the case thus far to the following problems of economic efficiency and of reducing material expenditures, production costs, and material and energy consumption. Similarly, I would like

to reiterate the need to unswervingly implement our provisions for foreign trade, international cooperation, and export activity in all fields.

At the same time, we should pay much greater attention to financial problems, to strengthening financial discipline, ensuring the commendable functioning of the entire financial system, and continuously increasing the national income and wealth—the surest way to promote the development of the fatherland and raising our people's overall well-being.

In accordance with our existing resolutions and with the decisions adopted at the national conference, we will take firm steps to implement all social programs on further raising the whole nation's material and intellectual living standard, the supreme goal of our party policy and the essence of the comprehensively developed socialist society being built in Romania. [applause]

Now, at the close of the national conference proceedings, I would like to refer to the need to unflinchingly fulfill regional self-supply programs. The program for the next year will be submitted to the Grand National Assembly for discussion. However, I would like to mention here that its provisions ensure good supplies for all fields of activity. Next year, we plan to slaughter 1 million cattle for the people's consumption, that is 300,000 more cattle than this year [applause] and 7.5 million pigs; [applause] likewise, we plan to ensure 15 kg poultry meat per capita. To all this, one should add some 5 million pigs slaughtered in the people's households, some 8 million sheep, and a limitless amount of poultry raised in the people's households. [applause]

We decided that, as of next year, we should firmly distribute to each county a certain number of livestock for slaughter—in keeping with the size of the population that is to be supplied from the state stocks—so that each county, within the framework of its self-supply program, can supervise the slaughtering weight of animals and see to it that the prescribed number of livestock for slaughtering is not exceeded. If they manage to obtain a higher weight increase, then the entire additional quantity of meat can stay in the respective county. [applause]

We will proceed in the same way with other agricultural and food products, while also ensuring adequate supplies of industrial produce for all counties of our country. We must take all necessary steps in this respect comrades—I raised this problem at the close of the national conference—namely, all members of the Central Committee, the entire party aktiv, and all working people should do their best to commendably fulfill the regional self-supply program, which ensures a good supply for all working people and citizens of the country. [cheers, chants]

We must more firmly apply the principles of socialist and communist ethics and equity in all our activities. Firm measures are necessary to continue to perfect and improve the management and planning activity in all socioeconomic areas in the spirit of what we have discussed on the basis of the report to the national conference.

Similarly, we must work to better organize our activities in all areas, to improve the distribution of the aktiv cadres and manpower, and we must raise the sense of responsibility, order, and discipline in work. We must well understand that all areas and all sectors, without any exception, beginning with the party and the state bodies down to the last working people's collective, require a spirit of responsibility, order, and discipline and require us to place above all the interests of our homeland's development and our people's well-being in general. Only in this way will we be able to ensure the well-being of each citizen. [cheers, chants]

Acting with greater determination to optimally ensure the role of the state and of its bodies in all areas, we must more vigorously develop and ensure the proper operation of all bodies of our workers revolutionary democracy. We must never forget that to develop workers revolutionary democracy and socialism constitutes an indivisible whole and that only on the basis of the broadest democracy, which will ensure the participation of all our people in the leadership of the entire society and in consciously forging their own future, will we be able to ensure the implementation of our programs and the victory of socialism and communism in Romania, which are being built with the people and for the people. [cheers, chants]

Within this framework, I would like to stress that by doing all we can to implement the policy of disarmament, our party and state have paid and will continue to pay all their attention to preserving the defense capability of our homeland in which socioeconomic development plays a decisive role. However, we will maintain and will take care that our Army—so long as wars have not been eliminated—will be trained and equipped in such a way that it will be able to fulfill, under any circumstances, its role of defending our country's independence and the cause of socialism. [cheers, chants]

It is necessary to leave this conference by more clearly understanding the need to improve the party activity in all areas and the need to increase the leading role of the party—a decisive factor for implementing all development programs of our homeland. We must work so that our party, which is the leading force and is the representative of the Romanian people's best qualities, will constantly and optimally fulfill its historic mission to serve our whole nation. [cheers, chants]

At the same time, we must leave with the firm determination to do all we can to improve all activities—ideological, political, educational—to mold the new man and turn revolutionary awareness, education, and ideological activity into a tremendous force that will vitalize our activities in all areas. [applause]

As discussed during the conference, we are confronted with great and complex problems that have to be solved appropriately in the period to come. We will have to provide new answers to the problems that are raised by the new stage of the revolution in our homeland and by world developments in general. We must do all we can so that these answers will take account of facts and of the requirements of Romania's development, and of development in general, and will ensure bright prospects for Romania's advance and the advance of the whole of mankind toward socialism. [cheers, chants]

We are determined to continue to work to promote a foreign policy of cooperation with all the countries of the world, regardless of their social system. Since I have already spoken about these issues extensively, I do not want to repeat them again. Nevertheless, at the conclusion of the conference proceedings, I would like to assure our friends from abroad and all the states and countries of the world that, the SR of Romania and the Romanian people will continue—in the future, too—to place in the center of its international activity the struggle for disarmament, for nuclear disarmament, for the elimination of all nuclear weapons, and for cooperation and peace with all the nations of the world. [cheers, chants]

Esteemed comrades, at the end of the national conference proceedings, we again assure the party and the whole nation that the decisions that have been adopted in complete unanimity provide brilliant prospects for the more marked development of our homeland and for raising it to new pinnacles of progress and the high peaks of communist civilization. Let us return to our workplaces with the firm determination to work with all our energy in order to implement all these objectives and to do all we can and see to it that, in the year 2000 socialist principles will completely triumph and we will progress toward communism. [cheers, chants]

Let us develop the revolutionary spirit more strongly, let us always act as true communists and revolutionaries, and let us always serve the people, the party, socialism, and peace. [applause]

Only a couple of days before the national conference our 23d millionth citizen was born. [applause]

We are a nation that numbers 23 million people. On behalf of these 23 million people, whose number is continuously increasing, let us do all we can in order to develop our homeland. Let us ensure them a bright future and a life of peace and cooperation. [cheers, chants]

Let us strongly develop the feelings of revolutionary patriotism, the love for our country and its glorious past and let us always act in the spirit of this socialist patriotism. Let us do all we can to strengthen the independence and sovereignty of our homeland—Romania. [cheers, chants]

I wish all the participants in the conference, the communists, and the whole nation, ever new and greater successes in their work and life. Much health and happiness! [cheers, chants]

I declare the proceedings of the national conference closed. [cheers, chants]

On the eve of the new year, I extend to all our party and people wishes for a happy new year, ever greater successes, and much health! A happy new year! [cheers, chants, applause]

Changes in Party Announced

AU161611 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1533 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES 16/11/1987—The National Conference of the Romanian Communist Party continued Wednesday, December 16, when discussions resumed in plenum.

The first part of the morning meeting was chaired by Alexandrina Gainuse, first secretary of the Ialomita County RCP committee.

The delegates and guests were told that 4,811 telegrams and letters had been sent to the National Conference of the Romanian Communist Party, to the General Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu personally, by party, mass and public bodies and organizations, state organs, working collectivities in all fields reporting outstanding achievements to honour the great Romanian communist forum and wish it full success. The telegrams and letters voice the firm determination of the Communists, of all working people to take action with a communist sense of responsibility and revolutionary spirit for the exemplary fulfilment of the tasks put before them by the report that Nicolae Ceausescu read at the conference, as well as by the documents that the conference will adopt.

All people who sent telegrams and letters to the conference were warmly thanked and made wishes of further success in work.

Taking the floor were Manea Manescu, member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, vice-president of the State Council; Iosif Szasz, alternate member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, first secretary of the Caras-Severin County RCP Committee; Ion Mitran, editor in chief of newspaper "SCINTEIA"; Miu Dobrescu, member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, chairman of the Central Council of Romania's General Council of Trade Unions; Colonel-General Vasile Milea, alternate member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, minister of national defence; Ion Toma, first secretary of the UCY [Union of Communist Youth] Central Committee, other delegates and guests.

In connection with the organizational measures included in the agenda, RCP General Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu took the floor and showed that since the 13th RCP Congress and until now, there had been 21 vacancies in the party Central Committee. Analyzing this situation, the commission set up by the national conference proposes to make full members of the Central Committee 20 alternate members and to elect in the Central Committee the first secretary of the CC of the Union of Communist Youth.

The proposals to complete the number of full members of the party Central Committee read by Gheorghe Tanase, secretary of the CC of the RCP, empowered by the commission, were unanimously endorsed.

The conference approved:

The promotion to full membership in the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party of the following comrades: Constantin Ion Deaconu, first secretary of Teleorman County RCP Committee, Maria Stefan, first secretary of Salaj County RCP Committee, Carol Dina, first secretary of Galati County RCP Committee, Mircea Ionescu, first deputy chairman of Iasi County People's Council, Stefania Ionescu, first deputy chairman of the Executive Committee of Teleorman People's Council, Emiliu-Ferdinand Toth, secretary for economic affairs of Caras-Severin County RCP Committee, Ion Ionescu, secretary for economic affairs of Hunedoara County RCP Committee, Ion Constantinescu, deputy prime minister, Ion Badea, chairman of the National Water Council, Paraschiv Alecu, instructor at the CC of RCP, Gheorghe Sprinteroiu, head of department of the Propaganda and Press Department of the CC of the RCP, Nicolae Badea, first secretary of Bucharest District Two Party Committee, Nicolae Croitoru, secretary for propaganda problems of Bucharest City RCP Committee, Florea Ghita, deputy head of the Propaganda and Press Section of the CC of the RCP, Gheorghe Dragomir, director of Fieni Binders and Asbetos Cement Combine, Dimbovita County, Cameluta Beldie, rector of the Iasi Polytechnical Institute, Doina Vasilescu, secretary for agricultural affairs of Arad County RCP Committee, Vasile Albu, instructor at the CC of the RCP, Stefan Gusa, major-general, first deputy minister of national defence and chief of staff, Aristotel Stamatoiu, lieutenant-general, deputy minister of the interior.

Election of Ioan Toma, first secretary of the UCY Central Committee, as member of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party.

After the recession, works were chaired by Ilie Matei, alternate member of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP, first secretary of Timis County RCP Committee.

The conference delegates were told that, of the 108 comrades who demanded the floor, 53 addressed the plenum; of the 1,079 who demanded the floor in the eight sections, 234 made addresses. All in all 287 comrades participated in the debates. Assessing that the plenum and the sections were addressed by representatives of all domains and branches of activity, who extensively referred to the documents and problems included in the agenda, the conference delegates endorsed the cessation of debates.

The closing session of the national conference was presided over by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party.

The National Conference of the Party unanimously approved the resolution on the endorsement as a program-like document of the report presented by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, on the state of the growth of the forces of production, of the socialist society in general, of production and social relations, of revolutionary worker democracy, of management improvement on the basis of self-management and self-financing principles, of improving and furthering the revolutionary process in the new phase of buiiding the multilaterally developed socialist society and of Romania's advance to communism.

Unanimously endorsed were then, as documents of the national conference, the report on the fulfillment of the thirteenth congress resolutions and of the party program of economic and social development of Romania, of the programs providing for a better organization of production and its modernization, for the observance of economic and financial norms and for a higher economic efficiency in all areas, and the report on the balanced, proportional economic and social growth of all zones of the country, the implementation of the physical planning program, the continual thriving of the localities of the country, the improvement of the general living standard, material as well as spiritual, documents that are to be improved based on the observations and proposals advanced during the debates.

Unanimously endorsed was also the resolution of the National Conference of the Romanian Communist Party.

Received with great warmth, with choicest feelings of love and esteem, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, delivered the closing speech of the national conference.

Resolution of Conference

AU171010 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0925 GMT 17 Dec 87

["Resolution on the Approval of the Report Read by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, General Secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, and Its Adoption as a Programme of Work and Struggle of the Party, of the Whole People"—AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 17/12/1987—The participants in the National Conference of the Romanian Communist Party unanimously approve the report read

by the Party General Secretary Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu on the state of growth of the forces of production, of the socialist society in general, of production and social relations, of revolutionary worker democracy, of management improvement on the basis of self-management and self-financing principles, of improving and furthering the revolutionary process in the new stage of building the multilaterally developed socialist society and of Romania's advance to communism.

The conference unanimously acknowledges and is highly appreciative of the vast activity carried on with devotion, revolutionary passion and heroism, in the spirit of the most brilliant dialectical-materialist thought, by the party general secretary, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu—eminent revolutionary leader and great patriot, tireless champion of the progress, freedom and independence of the socialist homeland, outstanding campaigner of the international communist and working-class movement, prominent personality of the contemporary world—of his decisive contribution to the unflinching fulfilment of the Thirteenth [RCP] Congress resolutions, of the demands and exigencies of the new stage in Romania's development, in enhancing its economic strength, in continuously improving the material and spiritual life of the entire people.

Deeply convinced that, through the exemplary translation into fact the new orientations and demands set by the party general secretary, our country will succesfully traverse a new and important stage in its multilateral progress, the participants in the conference decide that the masterly report read by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu—a document of inestimable ideological and political, theoretical and practical value, which outlines Romania's brilliant future—become the programme of work and struggle of the party, of the entire people, underlie the activity of the party bodies and organizations of rallying the efforts of the working people, of mobilizing their creative energies in the vast work of building the multilaterally developed socialist society and the homeland's firm advance to communism.

The national conference of the Romanian Communist Party calls on all party bodies and organizations, on the communists, on our whole people to work in a high revolutionary spirit, to devote all their forces, their power of work and creation to the exemplary fulfillment of the targets adopted by the participants in this representative communist forum, of the theses, ideas and guidelines substantiated by the party general secretary, thus ensuring the steady rise of free, sovereign and independent Romania onto the ever higher peaks of socialist and communist society.

Ceausescu Visits Economic Units in Bucharest

AU102113 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 2031 GMT 10 Dec 87

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES 10/12/1987—On Thursday, December 10, RCP General Secretary and President of Romania Nicolae Ceausescu paid a working visit to large economic units in Bucharest, representative for the level attained by the industry of the Romanian capital, for the great achievements scored by the working people in carrying through the resolutions of the thirteenth congress, of the party programme for Socialist Romania's steady welfare.

The new working dialogue falls within the analyses the RCP general secretary makes with coordinating councils per branches, with management boards of ministries, central departments and enterprises, with working collectivities with a view to setting measures for the fulfilment of the tasks for 1987 and the preparation of next year's production.

The visit of the party general secretary started at the "23 August" enterprise. At the prototype and test section President Nicolae Ceausescu was informed about the way in which the respective collectivity pursues the improvement of fabrication processes and of the quality of products in compliance with the growing exigencies of the home and foreign market. He was shown machines and aggregates developed by the experts of the enterprise, a number of highly complex products which are to be assimilated into fabrication, some of them in cooperation with foreign firms. Emphasis was placed on the close cooperation existing in the manufacture of these high-tech products with experts of relevant scientific research and technological engineering institutes. New technologies were also presented which ensure a reduction of specific consumption, as well as machines and aggregates manufactured by the enterprise to equip itself and test stands allowing for a minute control of product quality. An analysis was made of the implementation of the programme for the improvement of the organization and modernization of production processes, of the evolution of the main technical and economic indices in the period elapsed since the beginning of this five-year interval.

During the visit to the complex technological equipment factory the RCP general secretary examined the way in which a number of highly complex technological equipment for various industrial sectors—metallurgical, chemical, oil—is manufactured to meet both domestic and export demands.

At the engine factory the dialogue focused on the need to manufacture a wide gamut of such like products with performances on a par with the world's best. The new fabrication lines for crankshafts, crankcases and cylinder covers equipped with programme-controlled automated machines, manufactured in the enterprise being presented, the experts informed about the concerns to produce high-quality and highly reliable engines. In his dialogue with the workers, the party general secretary inquired about the way in which they fulfill their plan tasks, about their monthly remunerations. The workers stressed that everything was provided so that they carry on their activity in good conditions, fulfilling the set tasks.

At the locomotive factory, the RCP and Romanian state leader was informed about the setting up of specialized teams with a view to turning out with priority the production for export. The assembly lines for motorailers with motorcars and 1,300 hp electric diesel locomotives were also shown.

At the end of the visit President Nicolae Ceausescu met with the members of the Working People's Council of the enterprise.

In that framework, the chairman of the Working People's Council, the first deputy chairman and other members of the council warmly thanked President Nicolae Ceausescu for the visit, for his recommendations, pledging to spare no effort to exemplarily fulfil the tasks assigned to them.

The speakers expressed the communists', the working people's full adhesion to the resolution endorsed by the Executive Political Committee on November 27, underscoring that all lessons were drawn so as to improve the style and methods of work of the party organizations and the managerial staff, and to strengthen order, discipline and the revolutionary spirit.

Taking the floor, Nicolae Ceausescu showed that he wanted to visit the "23 August" enterprise given the great significance of the complex production programmes this major unit of the Romanian machine-building industry has to carry through. Underlining that he noted with satisfaction a number of good results in fulfilling the plan, the preoccupations and achievements in bettering the quality of products, the party general secretary also showed that there still were some arrears in production activities. So, he demanded that further action should be taken to make up for the arrears with certain products and implement, in the shortest possible time and in the best conditions, the programmes for the development of the motor manufacturing units, the modernization and organization of the production process in all sectors, and fulfil the plan tasks for this year and the five-year period as a whole. President Nicolae Ceausescu also showed that another major problem the enterprise has to solve was the steady improvement of the quality of products so as they can compete with the world's best and be even better than the ones turned out by the reputed firms in the domain, emphasizing that the enterprise had everything it needed, well-trained workers and experts able to attain such a goal.

The visit continued to the chemical equipment manufacturing enterprise "Grivita Rosie".

There, too, the working dialogue the RCP general secretary conducted with decision makers and with experts of the enterprise focused on questions related to the way in which plan tasks for December and this year as a whole are fulfilled, production is prepared for 1988 and the programmes for the organization of work and modernization of manufacturing processes, for a higher quality of products and higher economic efficiency of activities are implemented.

This year, the manufacturers of technological equipment for the chemical industry and crude refining have fulfilled and overfulfilled the tasks with all indices, the production increase being achieved by raising productivity, and implementing the programme of measures for the better organization of work and the modernization of production processes.

During the visit the guests were informed about the measures taken for a thorough preparation of the production of the next year when more plan tasks are to be fulfilled and over two thirds of the production is meant for export.

In the main sections of the enterprise attention focused on the new equipment and the technologies applied to produce them, such as the non-destructive control equipment made in cooperation with the Institute of Physics of Iasi, the pipe welding plant, and a new technology for metal welding conceived by the experts of the unit and of the Polytechnic Institute of Bucharest. The way in which the Bucharest enterprise fulfils its tasks from the nuclear power programme could also be noted.

At the end of his visit there President Nicolae Ceausescu met with members of the Working People's Council. During the meeting the chairman of the Working People's Council, the first vice-chairman and other members of the council took the floor informing about the steady concern of all the working people in the enterprise to do their utmost to exemplarily fulfil plan tasks. They showed that the worker collectivity of the "Grivita Rosie" enterprise debated the November 27 resolution of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP espousing the assessments contained in that document.

Addressing the attendance President Nicolae Ceausescu noted that the plan for this year was appropriately fulfilled and concerns existed for a better organization of production and work, for the attainment of higher technological and qualitative standards of products.

President Nicolae Ceausescu asked that further measures be taken for the elimination of shortcomings and better organization of production and work. Underscoring the significance of fulfilling export obligations and further increasing export production, the party general secretary showed that that was a demand, a highly important factor in economic growth and, with that as a basis, the rise in incomes and the working people's standard of living.

The Bucharest garment and knitwear enterprise was visited next. The analysis made there showed that the measures undertaken under the programme for the

improvement of production organization and the modernization of technological processes ensured a better utilization of fixed assets, which led to a marketable production growth, in conditions of high quality, development and specialization of production sections.

The party general secretary was informed about the application of the economic and financial mechanism.

Sections turning out production for foreign partners were visited where the results scored in improving technological flows with equipment manufactured by Romanian enterprises were presented.

Nicolae Ceausescu was appreciative of the achievements scored recommending the decisionmakers to further work for the manufacture of products ever more competitive in the world market, so as to increase the share of the export production by ensuring an appropriate quality.

The party general secretary stopped to talk to the people inquiring about their working and living conditions.

Next, Nicolae Ceausescu met with the Working People's Council of the enterprise.

In their addresses, the chairman of the Working People's Council, women workers, heads of sections, other members of the council, executives of the relevant central department expressed their determination to work for the enterprise to fulfil the plan for this year and for the entire five-year plan period in the best conditions.

Addressing the members of the Working People's Council of the enterprise, President Nicolae Ceausescu expressed satisfaction at those noticed during the visit, at the fact that the working people are fulfilling their plant tasks, having scored good results in implementing the programme for the improvement of production organizations and updating, in a first phase, and properly preparing the following ones.

Referring to the products manufactured, the party general secretary said that this impressions were good and stressed that the demands and wishes of the home and foreign beneficiaries should be further satisfied to secure orders which should lead to the development of the enterprise's activity, to higher incomes for the working people.

Totu Welcomes FRG's Genscher on Arrival

AU170829 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0649 GMT 17 Dec 87

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 17/12/1987—Hans-Dietrich Genscher, vice-chancellor and foreign minister of the Federal Republic of Germany, arrived in Bucharest on Wednesday, December 16, in the evening. He was welcomed at the Otopeni Airport by Ioan Totu, minister of foreign affairs of Romania.

Soviet Envoy Briefs on Washington Summit

LD161803 Belgrade Tanjug Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1655 GMT 16 Dec 87

[text] Belgrade, 16 Dec (TANJUG)—Sinan Hasani, member of the SFRY Presidency, received USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Vadim Loginov, who is a special envoy sent by the Soviet leadership to brief the SFRY Presidency on the Gorbachev-Reagan talks. In particular, mention was made of the significance and concrete elements of the agreement on eliminating medium- and shorter-range nuclear missiles, as well as the prospects for the forthcoming negotiations on arms control and disarmament.

Loginov also passed on information about the talks on regional questions, prospects for Soviet-U.S. relations, and in particular the expectations for the Soviet-U.S. summit in Moscow.

Presidency Member Sinan Hasani expressed his thanks for the briefing and said that such communication between the leaderships of the two countries is in accordance with good, developed, and friendly relations between the SFRY and the Soviet Union. Sinan Hasani recalled the SFRY's positive assessment of this Soviet-U.S. agreement, which was pointed out in a message by the president of the SFRY Presidency to Gorbachev and Reagan. Hasani also stressed that Yugoslavia and the Nonaligned Movement have always expressed special interest in questions of disarmament, peace and security, equitable cooperation, and development. They have undertaken in this area a series of actions and initiatives. He pointed out that international relations now demand the full contribution of each country in solving accumulated problems, and said it is necessary to ensure the participation of the entire international community in processes to resolve the most important questions of the contemporary world.

In this connection, Loginov stressed positive Soviet assessments of the role and activity of our country as one of the founders and most active members of the Nonaligned Movement. In the talks on bilateral relations and cooperation, both the USSR and the SFRY stressed their successful development and expressed the conviction that the forthcoming visit by Mikhail Gorbachev to our country will give new momentum and significantly contribute to their further promotion.

Sinan Hasani expressed his thanks and conveyed greetings to the Soviet leadership on bahalf of the SFRY Presidency. The talks were also attended by Ilija Djukic, assistant federal secretary for foreign affairs, and Viktor Maltsev, USSR ambassador to the SFRY.

Federal Chamber Examines Kosovo Situation

Program to Halt Emigration Approved

LD171004 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1244 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 16 Dec (TANJUG)—The Federal Chamber of the SFRY Assembly today approved the Yugoslav program to halt the trend of emigration of Serbs and Montenegrins from Kosovo, for the more rapid return of those who have already left, and for the settlement of those who wish to live and work in Kosovo, assessing that it opens up prospects for the speedier solution of the accumulated problems in this province. [passage omitted]

The adoption of the program was preceded by an extensive delegates' debate in which the full complexity of the Kosovo situation and the need for its more rapid solution were highlighted. The introductory report was given by delegate Branko Kostic, a member of the working party that drew up the document. He stressed that this program represents the most comprehensive action so far to implement the established policy for the stabilization of the situation in Kosovo, and in particular for the realization of the stances and conclusions of the ninth session of the LCY Central Committee. There is no doubt, Kostic stressed, that its realization will represent a major step in eliminating Albanian nationalism and separatism and all other anti-Yugoslav and antisocialist activities.

Recalling that broad debates and consultations were conducted on the draft program, Kostic said that there has been no denial of the importance of this document and that it was stressed everywhere that it should be adopted as soon as possible. [passage omitted]

In the debate which followed, the delegates particularly stressed the importance of the fact that the Yugoslav program on Kosovo has received support throughout the country. This is, as was stressed many times, a good sign that the actions to resolve the situation in the province will also be Yugoslav and that they will be successful.

The first to point this out was Desimir Jovanovic, but he underlined that in the struggle for the stabilization of conditions in Kosovo the members of Albanian nationality have particular responsibility. Without their all-around and full involvement, the Yugoslav program will not be able to be consistently realized, he warned. [passage omitted]

Mijat Sukovic assessed the program as a contribution of the Yugoslav community as a whole to the improvement of the general and specific conditions for the more successful resolution of the series of difficulties being manifested in Kosovo. He considers that the creative forces in Kosovo, with the cooperation of the Yugoslav community as set out in the program, can resolve the numerous economic and other problems in the province.

Some of Kosovo's problems, which are described in the program, cannot, in the view of Sukovic, be resolved only at the level of the province. The economic and other forms of autarchy of Kosovo, which is the cause of many other problems in the province, cannot be fundamentally overcome without overcoming autarchy in Yugoslavia. The same applies to statist-bureaucratic barriers, verbalism, and opportunism, Sukovic said.

Without disputing the correctness of the orientation that all republics and Vojvodina, that is the federation as a community, should directly participate in the solution of Kosovo's problems, Sukovic said that Serbia should nevertheless have a part of the obligations which are its alone, as well as the special rights based upon them, since Kosovo is an integral part of Serbia.

Ace Kocevski, representative of the Yugoslav Socialist Youth Federation, conveyed the support of his organization for the adoption of the Yugoslav program on Kosovo, stressing that young people expect to be a direct subject in its implementation. In this connection he recalled the intiative of the Yugoslav Socialist Youth Federation Conference Presidium that one or more youth work drives should be organized in Kosovo, and said that a place for such an undertaking should be found in the program.

Kocevski also proposed that an additional part should be added to the program dealing with demographic policy and the natality problem in Kosovo. Without this, he stressed, the program is unrealistic, because with such an explosive population growth in Kosovo no amount of assistance for more rapid development in the province will be adequate. [passage omitted]

At the close of the debate, it was agreed that the working party should examine all the comments and suggestions put forward today and, if it establishes that there are grounds for this, it should incorporate them in the final text of the program.

The chamber then went on to debate the draft resolution for next year, which is under consideration by the Chamber of Republics and Provinces. By the time of the break in the session (at 1400) six delegates had taken the floor and another 12 had asked to take part in the discussion that began very heatedly.

Radivoj Pepsic gave a negative appraisal of the "October analysis" of the economic trends from which it is not possible to detect the causes of the great divergences from the development aims set out for this year. He concluded that in its concept, orientations, and method of treatment, the proposed resolution does not match up to the severity of the economic situation. He stressed that such documents are quite unnecessary because no one believes in them any more, not even those who write them. [passage omitted]

When, after many hours of debate, the list of delegates was exhausted, Milos Milosavljevic, vice president of the FEC, took the platform, not, as he stressed, to defend the draft resolution, but in order to offer certain explanations. The vice president of the FEC said that the harsh comments on the proffered version of the resolution can be seen as taking issue with the Anti-Inflation Program, which was recently approved in this chamber, since the draft is based on this. A resolution formulated in this way is the fruit of economic necessity and not of anyone's voluntarism, Milosavljevic added.

Recalling that the FEC had been guided by the need to halt inflation when the latest measures were proposed, Milosavljevic stressed that the 6-month breathing space is not sought as a respite, but as a time to be used for essential changes in the economic system and for making room for market laws. He refused, however, to accept that the federal government is responsible for everything that was at present happening in the country. As an example he said that the FEC cannot be held responsible for strikes and everything that happens when they occur. It is quite clear what the consequences are for inflation when work stoppages are resolved by increasing pay by up to 50 percent, he said, adding that the FEC cannot be reproached for such moves.

Milosavljevic granted that the resolution could look different, that the priorities could be organized differently, but a constant problem is the fact that there are very strong demands for it to incorporate everyone's interests.

Replying to complaints that in removing price disparities some old errors have been removed and new ones made, Milosavljevic said that the moves made will be reexamined, after which it is possible to reckon with corrections of certain prices.

At the close of the discussion, the chamber decided that an "opinion" will be adopted tomorrow that will be sent to the Chamber of Republics and Provinces, because there are comments on the one drawn up in the Committee for Socioeconomic Relations.

Background on Emigration Policy

LD162354 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1932 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, December 16 (TANJUG)—The Federal Chamber of the Assembly of Yugoslavia today adopted an all-Yugoslav programme aimed at halting the migrations of Serbs and Montenegrins from the autonomous province of Kosovo, predominantly populated by ethnic Albanians. The programme also envisages the return of those who migrated from Kosovo and employing people from other parts of Yugoslavia in Kosovo.

The programme has the support of all the Yugoslav republics and its two provinces. Its implementation, as stressed in the assembly of Yugoslavia today, will mark a major step in eliminating Albanian nationalism and separatism and in stabilizing the situation in Kosovo. It is also to step up the development of self-management in the province, ensure full legality, and full rights and freedoms for citizens regardless of their nationality, the protection of their property and make more efficient the work of state organs.

The programme for halting the migrations also has an aim the establishment of closer links between the economy of Kosovo, Yugoslavia's least developed region, and the economies of other parts of Yugoslavia. Kosovo at present needs more than 500 experts, primarily engineers, as well as experts in law, education and other fields.

The debate pointed out that members of the Albanian nationality have particular responsibility in the stabilization of the situation in Kosovo which continues to [word indistinct] by the activities of Albanian separatists and the migrations of Serbs and Montenegrins under their pressure. It will not be possible to consistently implement the all-Yugoslav programme without their all-round participation.

In 1981, mass demonstrations by Albanian nationalists and separatists took place in Kosovo in which nine persons were killed and scores injured. These events, assessed as an attempted counterrevolution, further accelerated the migrations of Serbs and Montenegins from the province. In the past six years, over 23,000 Serbs and Montenegrins left their homes (?with the) majority under pressure by Albanian nationalists and separatists.

This autumn, with six years' tardiness, a number of Kosovo officials responsible for strengthening Albanian separatism were expelled from the League of Communists. A proposal was also put forward to expel from the party ranks Fadil Hodza, former vice-president of Yugoslavia and the most prominent official of Albanian nationality in the past four decades.

The programme which is divided into several parts determines not only tasks and timetables, but also those who are to carry them out.

Among other things, contracts on the sales of property in Kosovo will be investigated and those signed under pressure will be revised, the official use of the languages of nationalities will be legally regulated within three months, and bilingual education (in both Serbian and Albanian) will gradually be introduced in the more important subjects in Kosovo schools. The federal court will give priority to cases from Kosovo.

State organs have been ordered in the first quarter of 1988 to start buying the lots, houses and apartments of those who migrated from Kosovo and who are returning to the province, and those Serbs and Montenegrins who are returning will be offered favourable conditions for acquiring land.

The competent organs in Kosovo will cooperate with corresponding organs in Serbia in uncovering and suppressing instances of Albanian nationalism and separatism and other kinds of nationalism.

Nine Soldiers of Albanian Descent Indicted

AU161920 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Text] The Skopje military prosecutor has issued an indictment against nine soldiers from the Prilep garrison for the criminal act of association for the purpose of hostile activities. The indictment says that the accused soldiers acted from the positions of Albanian nationalism and separatism, among other things glorifying and justifying Aziz Keljmendi's crime at Paracin Barracks.

The military prosecutor's announcement reads:

After conducting investigations, the military prosecutor issued an indictment in the military court in Skopje against (Naser Krasnici, Besil Gasi, Ramiz Ahmeti, Bajram Keljmendi, Dzemail Marosi, Zekiri Urniku, Zef Premi, Ramiz Bajrami, and Sulja Dzambugalj), soldiers from the Prilep Garrison, for the criminal act of association for the purpose of hostile activities. Accused (Naser Krasnici), law graduate, gathered these ethnic Albanian soldiers and spoke to them from positions of Albanian nationalism and separatism. Having gained their support, he formed a hostile group whose aim it was to create ethnically pure (?Republic of Kosovo), followed by secession from Yugoslavia and joining Albania.

At their meetings, the accused discussed the realization of the set aims, and among other things justified and glorified the crime perpetrated by Aziz Keljmendi at Paracin Garrison as one way of implementing the set goals, expressing their readiness to commit such and similar acts themselves.

It has been proposed that the detention of the accused be extended.

Tirana Radio Report Called 'Gross Falsehood'

LD131857 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1750 GMT 13 Dec 87

[Text] Skopje, Dec 13 (TANJUG)—The recent claim by Radio Tirana that the Albanian nationality in the Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is forbidden to use its mother tongue is a gross falsehood and ordinary piece of gossip, writes the Albanian-language weekly FLAKA E VELAZERIMIT of Skopje today.

Radio Tirana is vainly trying to find in Macedonia an example similar to the Albanian authorities' practice in relation to the minorities in Albania, the paper says.

The weekly, published for the past 42 years and read by hundreds of thousands of ethnic Albanians in Macedonia, recalls that scientific, cultural, literary and children's magazines are published in Albanian in this Yugoslav republic.

Many Albanian writers in Macedonia and other parts of Yugoslavia publish their works in the "allegedly banned Albanian language," says FLAKA E VELAZERIMIT.

Textbooks are published in Albanian in Skopje, various programs for ethnic Albanians may be heard or seen on radio and television daily, while works by Albanian authors are performed in their own language by Skopje's theatre of nationalities, notes the weekly.

It concludes by saying that the policy of national equality in Yugoslavia and Macedonia and the affirmation of the Albanian nationality seem to bother the Albanian leadership, which only knows how to lay down recipes for others while being indifferent to the rights of the minorities in its own country.

TANJUG Reports meeting of LCY CC Presidium

LD152230 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1839 GMT 15 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, 15 Dec (TANJUG)—The presidium will call for all changes in the economic system, development, and economic policy to be carried out on time and in accordance with the decisions of the 13th LCY Congress. This is stated in a report on the LCY Central Committee Presidium session.

The LCY Central Committee Presidium (presided over by Bosko Krunic) examined at today's session its tasks arising from the discussion and conclusions of the 11th LCY Central Committee session. The Presidium adopted a work program of specific activities by the presidium and its bodies for the implementation of the conclusions of the 11th LCY Central Committee session on the tasks of the LC in socioeconomic development in 1988. This program establishes the duty of the presidium to monitor and boost ideological and political activity for the implementation of the conclusions of the 11th session and to inform the LCY Central Committee reguiarly on this.

The presidium also adopted the plan for the preparations and for the program of work for the LCY conference. Also passed was a work plan of duties of the LCY Central Committee Presidium in implementing the conclusions of the LCY Central Committee on the activity of members, organizations, and organs of the LCY in achieving constitutionality and legality.

In the framework of preparations for a meeting of the LCY Central Committee, the presidium considered and adopted draft conclusions of the LCY Central Committee on the ideological and political nature of the draft amendments to the SFRY Constitution and the further tasks of communists in forthcoming activities for preparations to change the SFRY constitution.

Dizdarevic Calls for 'United' Country

LD121532 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1424 GMT 12 Dec 87

[Text] Sarajevo, 12 Dec (TANJUG)—We are expected, in practice, to put forth a concept that Yugoslavia is as strong and powerful as it is united. This concept includes the idea that no part and no one in any part of this country can be certain of his rights and his possibilities for development without the uniform policy and practice of the consolidation and development of Yugoslavia as a whole.

Raif Dizdarevic, federal secretary for foreign affairs, stated this today at the Bosnia-Hercegovina Assembly, which elected him a member of the SFRY Presidency at the joint session of all the chambers.

We are not valued in the world as particles of this country, added Dizdarevic, but according to what we are within this country and to what extent we are coordinated, united, and strong. In addition, it should be mentioned that our internal difficulties and lack of unity, and especially the long-standing crisis that is taking a long time to overcome, weaken our reputation in the world. There can be no progress for anyone without the progress of the entire country, stressed Raif Dizdarevic on his election as a member of the SFRY Presidency.

Mojsov Addresses Djevdjelija Political Aktiv

LD131242 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1149 GMT 12 Dec 87

[Text] Djevdjelija, 12 Dec (TANJUG)—As a result of the many years of our principled nonaligned foreign policy, nonaligned Yugoslavia has been for more than a quarter of a century a stable factor of peace and balance not only in the Balkan region and in Europe, but in the world. For this reason the international standing of our country is increasingly great as time goes by and it has not been threatened even for a moment despite the fact that the contemporary world continually faces polarization in terms of blocs, and geopolitical and economic crises in certain regions.

This was said by Lazar Mojsov, president of the SFRY Presidency, who spoke today to the political aktiv of Djevdjelija on topical issues in international relations and on Yugoslavia's foreign policy. Lazar Mojsov visited several work collectives in the Djevdjelija municipality together with Jakov Lazaraovskiy, president of the Macedonian LC Central Committee Presidium, and Gligorije Gogovski, president of the Executive Council of the Macedonian Assembly.

Mirkovic Interviewed on Modernization in Army

LD161403 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1326 GMT 16 Dec 87

["Yugoslav Army Will Not Abandon Its Modernization Programmes"—TANJUG headline]

[Text] Belgrade, Dec 16 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav People's Army will not abandon its major armament and military equipment programmes, but some development

plans will be slowed down due to the economic crisis, Chief of the General Staff Lieutenant-General Stevan Mirkovic said in an interview to TANJUG on the occasion of Army Day, December 22.

General Mirkovic said the Yugoslav Armed Forces would enter the 21st century with new equipment and weapons adjusted to changes in the doctrine of armed struggle. Substantial funds are invested in the development and production of microelectronics, digital technology, telecommunications and informatics. The Army also invests in the development of new materials. All this will enable the introduction of new generations of guided rockets, aircraft, vessels and other combat equipment combining reduced mass and increased endurance, said General Mirkovic.

On the Washington summit and the signing of the U.S.-Soviet INF Treaty, General Mirkovic said it was a big step towards easing tension in international relations and building up confidence among the superpowers, which is a vital prerequisite for continuing disarmament talks.

He also said that the treaty could have a favourable impact on the overall situation in Europe, including the Balkans, and to a certain extent on Yugoslavia's military-political position as well.

However, said General Mirkovic, I don't expect an early conclusion of agreements on the removal of artillery and similar nuclear arms and conventional forces' reduction, or that the military-political situation will be radically improved and the conditions created for equal security of all countries.

The strengthening of military potentials and combat readiness announced by the armed forces of a number of European countries with the aim of adjusting to the new situation best prove that the Yugoslav Armed Forces must take this fact into account, he said.

Serbian Council Discusses Relocating Tasks

LD121220 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1200 GMT 11 Dec 87

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 11 Dec (TANJUG)—Today's session of the Council for National Defense of the Serbian Presidency, presided over by Vukoje Bulatovic, vice president of the Serbian Presidency, examined the question of preparations to hand tasks relating to military service over to the competent organs in the SR of Serbia. It was assessed that appropriate measures and activities have been implemented to prepare the organs and organizations in the republic for taking over these tasks, which have until now been carried out by the territorial and other military organs. The measures and activities relate to finding sources and methods of financing the tasks taken over, the provision of working premises, cadres, and other issues. The council concluded that appropriate measures should be taken at once to ensure that certain tasks related to military service begin to be executed in accordance with legal deadlines. [passage omitted]

Hamdija, Hakija Pozderac Hospitalized

AU151528 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 11 Dec 87 p 14

[Unattributed report: "The Pozderac Brothers Hospitalized"]

[Text] Belgrade, 10 December—Both the Pozderac brothers, Hamdija and Hakija, whose names have often been mentioned in recent months in connection with the Agrokomerc affair and various resignations and accusations, are at present under hospital care.

As we learned yesterday from reliable sources, Hakija is in the Gasterentorological Clinic of the Belgrade Military Medical Academy because of ulcer problems, and Hamdija is in the Third Internal Clinic in Sarajevo because of heart difficulties.

Belgrade City Committee Holds Session

AU122005 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 27 Nov 87 p 3

[Dusan Drazic, Dragan Radevic, and Dragan Djordjevic report on the session of the Belgrade LC City Committee: "Cabinet Work and Little Leaders Are Done Away With"]

[Text] Belgrade, 26 Nov—All basic LC organizations, communal LC committees, and the Belgrade University LC Committee will critically reexamine the situation with cadres and will begin strengthening cadres in conformity with the tasks set in the long-term economic stabilization program and at the eighth session of the LC Central Committee of Serbia, which demanded responsibility at all levels.

The City Committee also concluded that it is primarily the LC's responsibility to ensure that the large creative potential that Belgrade possesses is most purposefully used and that results will depend on the LC's capability to openly and publicly oppose opportunism, idleness, cliques [grupasenje], and favoritism. It should also oppose exclusiveness and privatization of cadre policy and face the need to overcome current socioeconomic relations and the present positions of individuals that have led to all this.

"It is in resolving these questions that the LC should pass the test. We have assumed these obligations and responsibilities through the very act of being elected to responsible posts. We must bear this responsibility. Only in this way will we be successful in solving the crisis," Dr Mihailo Milojevic, member of the Belgrade City Committee Presidium, said in the introductory speech.

The agenda for the city committee session included an extremely significant topic: "The role of cadres in development and in finding a way out of the situation we are in." Dr Rados Smiljkovic, president of the Belgrade LC City Committee Organization, held the chair.

During today's session, it was frequently said that we need radical changes! We need changes in work, behavior, responsibility, and particularly in the work of all LC leaderships and sociopolitical organizations, and in the economy, state organs, and the like. Without those changes in all spheres of work, we can hardly go forward and we can hardly fulfill our duties and responsibilities. That means that private office and petty bureaucratic methods of work are done away with. Such methods have demonstrated themselves to be unsuccessful. The LC has no time to waste and no time for impositions, cliques, various kinds of opportunism and sensationalism, and any kind of fabricated cases and affairs that disperse and disunite forces and make the LC's action ineffective and inefficient.

The economic situation in Belgrade was assessed to be very serious.

The answer to the question of how to overcome that situation was sought at this session. It was said that this cannot be done by individuals, people acting on their own, or little leaders. This can only be done by organizations and by the mass commitment of all LC members, working people, and citizens. In order to make the LC and working people become active on a larger scale, we need to make contact with them—real human and communist contact, and not contact as leaders and bosses because this repels people and makes them withdraw into themselves.

In his introductory speech, Mihailo Milojevic said that the people and cadres needed for this kind of activity by the LC and for the successes we desire are those who can rally and lead people and who can influence people by their own example, and who can mobilize them. This can be done by those people who are accepted at the grassroots level, who have a candid approach, who are clean in the working and moral sense, and who place society's successes above their own. That can be done by those people whose deeds match their words, and by those people who really share their destiny with the LC leadership and with working people and citizens. There will be no essential improvement without the further development of self-management, just as there will be no further development of self-management without economic and political stabilization.

"Inspired" by the Yugoslav economic, social, and political crisis, Milojica Pantelic suggested that the SFRY Assembly, the SAWPY Federal Conference, as well as the forthcoming LCY Conference, most urgently hold a debate on the situation and on the personal and collective responsibility of organs and individuals for irresponsibly assuming huge foreign debts, for the huge bad investments in the SFRY, for the counterrevolution in Kosovo, for the unsuccessful implementation of the long-term economic stabilization program, and for the lamentable delay in making necessary changes in the SFRY Constitution and the Associated Labor Law.

Strange Democracy [subhead]

The constitutional positions of the SR of Serbia cannot be successfully realized unless corresponding changes and normative solutions are introduced in the SFRY Constitution, because what is written in the SFRY Constitution now is actually insufficient, considering the special double position of the socialist autonomous provinces. They are above all a constituent part of the SR of Serbia and simultaneously of the Yugoslav Federation. It is only natural that I want the forthcoming Yugoslav public debate to be free to the end—to be democratic, without any ropes around one's neck: One of these ropes is the assertion that one can discuss constitutional amendments only within the framework of the initiative and proposal of the SFRY Presidency.

What does that mean?

People, fall into line; working class of Yugoslavia, fall into line....

It cannot be done that way, just as it cannot be done in the way presented in a letter I read in the press, the letter written by the Presidency of the SR of Slovenia and addressed to the SFRY Presidency. Among other things, the letter demands that the SFRY Presidency intervene in the current process of drafting constitutional amendments. Among other things, it demands that the amendments or proposals that cannot be expected in advance to be backed by every republic and province should not be submitted to public debate!

What a strange democracy, Pantelic said.

According to him, there is much excitement about the eighth session of the LC Central Committee of Serbia. There is a revolutionary kind of excitement, because the eighth session represents a special kind of revolutionary storm. According to him, a revolutionary turn has started with the Ninth LCY Central Committee session on Kosovo, with the most recent session of the LC organization in the Yugoslav People's Army, and with everything that is happening in the Bosnia-Hercegovina leadership in the wake of the Agrokomerc affair. There is no force capable of stopping this revolutionary process, thanks primarily to democratic centralism.

Slobodan Ostojic remarked that highly skilled cadres are emigrating from Belgrade to foreign countries, are moving to other parts of our country, and are taking up noneconomic activities. It is urgent that this process be stopped. Milodrag Vujasinovic said that the trade union members in Belgrade resolutely demand that the conclusions of the eighth session be implemented, because

workers do not want demagoguery and false promises, but a resolute turning to work and the implementation of the established policy. According to Jovan Mileusnic, the burden carried by the economy should finally be eased, for this is a condition for getting out of the crisis. The cadre policy has been unregulated so far.

Borislav Tomic said, among other things, that "there has never been so much name-calling in the SR of Serbia by communists and basic organizations in Belgrade. Therefore, it is no wonder that in this general party discussion, it is requested that the City Committee change its attitude, make its work much more efficient, and provide answers to questions that are raised. One of these questions is the reaction to the letter addressed to the City Committee Presidium by Comrade Ivan Stambolic, who used his position and the authority of power. With this letter, Stambolic disparaged the committee and its presidium, as if they were unable to assess critically the work of their president. Indulgence and cronyism, as the weakest point in the party work against which communists should struggle, have been manifested precisely by Stambolic. It is therefore not surprising that Belgrade communists demand his resignation, Tomic pointed out.

Branislav Vujinovic spoke about relieving cadres who use this moment for an attempt to lead astray.

Especially because their work to date imposes an obligation on them, Comrades Ribicic, Bogdanovic, and their ilk, Vujinovic said, have no right to dispense wrong assessments and advice. If nothing else, they should leave us alone. We really can do without their intentions to push us into the abyss.

Veselin Miljus, the only City Committee member who is an agriculturist, stressed that too little has been said about how our countryside accepted the positions of the eighth session of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia. As an activist hailing from the countryside, he said that the conclusions of the eighth session have met with great support, but there are some opportunists who oppose this but at the same time do not say what they have done at their jobs to improve the present situation.

Also taking part in the discussions were Miroslav Bjelic, Milos Miljanovic, Aleksandar Paripovic, Miloje Srejic, Vojislav Simanovic, Lidija Jovetic, Veljko Zgonjanin, and Tihomir Tomicevic.

Views on Stambolic Endorsed [subhead]

The City Committee agreed completely with and unanimously adopted the announcement of the City LC Committee Presidium concerning Ivan Stambolic's gesture of sending a secret letter to the Presidium, which was assessed as incompatible with the office of the president of the SR of Serbia.

Responsible for "Vojko and Savle" [subhead]

A working group of the LC City Committee (Slobodan Jovanovic, Zoran Todorovic, Dr Jovan Bukelic) concluded that Radmilo Kljajic is guilty of aggravating the political action in overcoming the problems that arose with the publication of STUDENT Issue No 11-12, which contained, especially on the front page, extremely unacceptable allusions to the work and personage of Comrade Tito and the achievements of the socialist revolution. With his work, Radmilo Kljajic contributed to creating confusion and creating the so-called STUDENT case, particularly with his position that he expressed in VECERNJE NOVOSTI on 15 May 1987, which made political actions and the situation in the LC University Committee, the Socialist Youth Federation University Committee, and at the University as a whole, more difficult....

After clear stands were adopted by the Presidium of the University Committee of the Socialist Youth Federation, the Presidium of the LC University Committee, the Presidium of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia, and the presidium of the city committee, to the effect that the double issue of STUDENT contains an attack on the work and the personage of Josip Broz Tito and the achievements of the socialist revolution, Radmilo Kljajic not only did not abandon the position he expressed, but in a commentary in BORBA on 2 July 1987 directly attempted to discredit the LC organs, disputing their right to adopt stands on individual political problems and occurrences, and assessing that such behavior by LC organs is dogmatic.

On the basis of all the facts, statements, and findings, the working group has reached the conclusion that Radmilo Kljajic, member of the city committee, is responsible for the political and cultural scandal breaking out in connection with the humorous story, "Vojko and Savle." This inflicted tremendous damage to the city committee. After examining all the documents and facts at its disposal, the working group reached the conclusion that over a considerable period of time, Radmilo Kljajic deluded the public, the LC basic organization in POLITIKA, the presidium of the city committee, the working group of the city committee, and the city committee with his activities and speeches on the humorous story and his role in it. The working group reached this conclusion particularly after the 7 November 1987 session of the Presidium of the LC City Committee, at which it was established beyond dispute that Radmilo Kljajic had the text of the humorous story before it was published in POLITIKA. A member of the city committee presidium and an executive secretary of the city committee presidium stated in the presidium that Radmilo Kljajic read them the text of the humorous story a few days before the story appeared in POLITIKA. In this way Radmilo Kljajic implicated the very LC City Committee with the humorous story, "Vojko and Savle." Thus he bears full moral and political responsibility to the city committee and the LC, particularly since, in this case, he misused the authority of the city committee and its presidium at

the time of the publication of the humorous story, and because of the consequences that this case caused in POLITIKA, in the LC, and among the public.

At its tenth session, the city committee decided that Radmilo Kljajic's speech at this session should not be published, or rather that it should remain for internal use only until the complete work of the working group was concluded. This decision was preceded by the decision of the city LC committee that the issue would not be discussed at this session before the working group establishes all the facts and that it should be discussed at two, and not one, session of the city committee. However, despite such a decision being made by the city committee, some newspapers carried parts of the speech and the MLADOST periodical carried the speech in its 2 November issue as approved by the author and also expanded by sections that Radmilo Kljajic did not pronounce at the city committee session. The text of his speech and the sections added include insinuations about and defamations of some people, which is contrary to the moral and statutory norms of the LC.

During the debate so far at the sessions of the LC City Committee Presidium, the city committee on his responsibility, and at his meeting with the working group, Radmilo Kljajic did not show readiness to be self-critical about his political activity or to take note of his responsibility on that. He also showed no readiness to talk with the working group in a frank, comradely, and communist way. On the contrary, he constantly tried to impute his mistakes and errors to other LC members and organs, and tried to defame them and belittle them morally, as well as to represent the question of his own responsibility as the result of other people's personal quarrels or as a matter of revenge.

Beginning from all the facts and the assessments about Radmilo Kljajic's activity and working in conformity with statutory provisions, the working group suggested that the city committee expel Radmilo Kljajic from the city committee and the LC.

The working group has also assessed that Spasa Andjelic, member of the City Committee, is responsible for making mistakes and errors in his work during his tenure as president of the STUDENT Publishing Council. As president of the STUDENT Publishing Council, Spasa Andjelic failed to work in conformity with positions, conclusions, and measures of the University Committee Presidium of the Socialist Youth Federation that had been endorsed completely by the Presidium of the University LC Committee. He also did not contribute to overcoming the problems that had arisen with the publishing of STUDENT No. 11-12 which included some unacceptable allusions to Comrade Tito's work and person.

The working group suggested that the Belgrade LC City Committee relieve Spasa Andjelic of the duty of city committee member.

Radmilo Kljajic Expelled From LC [subhead]

Expressing its stand on the working group's suggestion, the city committee unanimously decided to expel Radmilo Kljajic from the LCY and the city LC committee.

Delegation Leaves for Meeting With EEC Council

LD131759 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1535 GMT 13 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, 13 Dec (TANJUG)—A Yugoslav delegation led by Milos Milosavljevic, vice president of the FEC, left today for Brussels for the sixth session of the Council for Cooperation Between the SFRY and the EEC. It is expected that the session will discuss the results of cooperation up to the present and possibilities for further development, broadening, and deepening, on the basis of the principles contained in the Belgrade Declaration of 1976.

Cooperation Protocol Signed

LD121355 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1735 GMT 11 Dec 87

[Text] Brussels, Dec 11 (TANJUG)—Yugoslavia and the European Community signed here today protocols on cooperation comprising a new trade regime, financial cooperation and adjustment of the Yugoslavia-EC agreement to Spain's and Portugal's entry into the community.

According to the EC Ministerial Council, the protocols "mark new steps forward in the community's cooperation with Yugoslavia and testify to the political and economic importance of the strengthening of their ties, which is in the interest of both sides and of stability in Europe and the Mediterranean."

The protocols, the result of two years of strenuous negotiations, did not fully meet Yugoslavia's demands for a considerable increase of exports to the EC market and for more advanced forms of cooperation.

The council also said that the protocols would provide for a "greater access of Yugoslav goods to the community market and for greater concessions for a wider range of farming products." The documents also include a number of measures aimed at maintaining the traditional course of exchanges in a new situation resulting from the expansion of the EC membership with Spain and Portugal.

The financial protocol signed by the two sides provides for a 550 million ECU (some 660 million dollar) credit to Yugoslavia by the European Investment Bank (BEI), to be repaid over a period of six years.

A Yugoslav demand for funds aimed at covering interest payments on the BEI credit was not accepted. The demand was made in the view of the fact that the credit would mostly be used for the completion of the central

Yugoslav highway "Bratstvo-Jedinstvo," a project in which the community has shown great interest because it would significantly improve communications with Greece and the Middle East.

A ministerial session of the Council for Yugoslavia-EC Cooperation is scheduled for Monday.

Commodity Exchange Protocol Signed With Poland

LD130024 Warsaw PAP in English
1638 GMT 12 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, Dec. 12—The 1988 protocol on Polish-Yugoslav commodity exchange, signed here, envisages the consolidation of high state of Polish-Yugoslav commodity turnover. In 1988, the exchange is to rise by 10 per cent as compared with the 1987 deliveries.

Machines and installations have the greatest share, about 46 per cent, in Polish-Yugoslav commodity exchange. Great share of supplies under long-term agreements on coproduction and specialization in production in this turnover is of great significance. As for exports and imports, the value of these deliveries is to amount to about 260 million dollars.

The exchange of intermediate and raw materials will account for about 41 per cent of the planned turnover.

Trade Protocol Signed With Hungary

LD121315 Belgrade TANJUG in English
1520 GMT 11 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, Dec 11 (TANJUG)—In 1988, Yugoslavia and Hungary plan to exchange merchandise and services to the value of 766 million dollars. The target was set out in the protocol which the trade delegations of the two countries signed here today.

This year's trade with Hungary—which is Yugoslavia's third largest trade partner among the neighboring countries, after Italy and Austria—has been planned at 830 million dollars, but, judging by the results so far, it is unlikely that the target will be attained.

Trade in services, which significantly contributes to the two countries' trade, is expected to reach 132 million dollars next year.

Hungary has shown particular interest in strengthening ties through cooperation in the production of passenger vehicles, iron and steel products and household appliances.

For its part, Yugoslavia is interested for a greater use of its sea ports for the handling of Hungarian cargo.

MTI Reports Protocol

LD121318 Budapest MTI in English
1613 GMT 11 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, December 11 (MTI)—Next year the value of Hungarian-Yugoslav trade is to increase by more than 30 per cent and amount to 634 million dollars. The protocol was signed by Imre Dunai, Hungarian deputy foreign trade minister, and Djordje Hadji-Mihajlovic, deputy head of the secretariat for foreign trade of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Stockholm Police Arrest Journalist

LD111633 Belgrade TANJUG in English
1350 GMT 11 Dec 87

[Text] Stockholm, December 11 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Embassy in Sweden has asked the Swedish authorities for an official explanation of yesterday's detention of Borislav Komada, a journalist of the Belgrade daily VECERNJE NOVOSTI who was released after two and a half hours of questioning.

Komada, who is in Stockholm as a special reporter covering the release and expulsion of Miroslav Baresic, member of the Ustasha terrorist organization and killer of Yugoslav Ambassador Vladimir Rolovic, was arrested yesterday morning in his hotel room.

Komada said that he was held at gunpoint by five policemen, and forced by two civilians to lie flat on his face. He was handcuffed and led to a car barefoot in the snow. He was then taken to a building in the center of Stockholm and told he was in the headquarters of the secret police.

While questioning the Yugoslav reporter, the police expressed suspicion that he was a terrorist who had come to Sweden to carry out a terrorist act. After questioning, the Yugoslav journalist was released with apologies from the police that a mistake had been made. One policeman accompanied him to his hotel in order to explain to the receptionists that the arrest had been made by mistake.

TANJUG's Stockholm correspondent tried to get information about the incident from the Swedish security service but was told that the head of the department was "very busy today".